

Eye Openers Fall 2015

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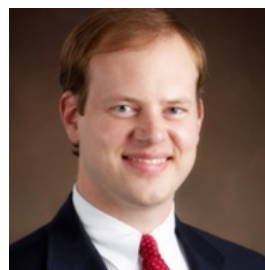
November 2015

President's Corner

Dear Members,

I hope this letter finds you all enjoying a productive and satisfying fall season. GSO has certainly had a busy year, and we look forward to continued success in 2016.

First, I would like to thank everyone who attended July's Annual Meeting, which was a great success. Our upcoming GEM Eye Meeting will be held on Saturday, February 6, 2016 in Atlanta. We have several esteemed speakers already confirmed, including **Gerald J. Harris, MD, FACS**, Professor of Ophthalmology and Chief of Orbital and Oculoplastic Surgery at the Medical College of Wisconsin; **Nancy Holekamp, MD**, Director of Retinal Services for the Pepose Vision Institute; and **Jeffrey M. Liebmann, MD**, Shirlee & Bernard Brown Professor of Ophthalmology and Director of Glaucoma Service at Columbia University Medical Center. I urge everyone to visit www.ga-eyemds.org for more information and register without delay.



The day before GEM, GSO leadership will gather for a Council retreat, in which we will review our organization's specific goals and objectives and identify precisely those areas that need the most attention. We have several important topics to discuss, including membership development and engaging YOs, advocacy and current legislative initiatives, and community engagement opportunities. I am happy to report that GSO is very sound financially, which portends well for our ability to successfully represent the interests of Georgia's ophthalmologists and their patients, both today and into the future.

I would also like to extend hearty congratulations to GSO's own **Steven L. Beaty, MD**, who received the AAO 2015 Outstanding Humanitarian Service Award. Dr. Beaty was selected for this prestigious award for his tireless, lifelong commitment to providing care for underprivileged people all over the world. The award will be presented during the Opening Ceremony of AAO's Annual Meeting, this November 14-17 in Las Vegas. If you would like to attend and show your support for Dr. Beaty and his work, please register online at www.aao.org/annual-meeting.

Thanks to the efforts of all of our members, GSO will continue to work toward improving the overall state of visual health in Georgia. If you have any questions or concerns about our organization, please do not hesitate to contact our Executive Office at (404) 299-6588 or www.ga-eyemds.org. We welcome your input.

Sincerely,

McGregor Lott, MD
President

Getting Involved: GSO Members Participate in Annual Health Fair



One of most valuable aspects of this organization is our focus on public engagement. On August 15, GSO gave back to the community by participating in Congressman David Scott's 11th Annual 13th Congressional District Health Fair. Charitable organizations from across the healthcare spectrum gathered to provide free medical screenings to the public, and Rep. Scott and his team were very pleased with GSO's volunteer turnout.

A heartfelt congratulations to members **Purnima S. Patel, MD** and **Jeremy K. Jones, MD** for spearheading GSO's contributions to this invaluable effort. Dr. Patel and Dr. Jones recruited more than 25 medical school students from the Emory and Morehouse Schools of Medicine to volunteer for the Health Fair. Using donated equipment from the Georgia Lions Lighthouse Foundation and Prevent Blindness Georgia, they were able to screen more than 200 patients in a single day.

We would also like to recognize and sincerely thank all of the students who donated their time and energy to this year's Health Fair—your energy, enthusiasm, and growing expertise are priceless gifts both to your patients and to the entire ophthalmological community. We extend special acknowledgement and gratitude to student leaders Jeffrey Tran and Philip Garza of Emory's Ophthalmology Interest Group, whose efforts were instrumental in organizing this community service event.

2016 GEM Eye Meeting: Saturday February 6, 2016 – At New Venue: The Westin Buckhead Atlanta

Registration Now Open

It's right around the corner—the GEM Eye Meeting will take place Saturday February 6, 2016 at the Westin Buckhead Atlanta. Since its premiere in 2009, GEM has brought together eye care professionals and specialists from around the nation to learn, collaborate, and enhance their career development. Hosted by the Georgia Society of Ophthalmology (GSO), Emory Eye Center & Emory University School of Medicine, and the Department of Ophthalmology, Medical College of Georgia (MCG), GEM has grown over the years into a prime annual event for vision healthcare experts to gain valuable continuing education while expanding personal networks—of both friends and career contacts—in an engaging, collegial atmosphere.

This year's GEM Meeting features three separate tracks—for ophthalmologists, ophthalmic technicians, and practice administrators—each with its own program of enlightening seminars from the finest minds in ophthalmology. Visit www.ga-eyemds.com for the most up-to-date information about each tracks' compelling program of topics and speakers.

Furthermore, this year we are excited to host a representative from the Ophthalmic Medical Insurance Company at the GEM Meeting: risk management specialist Michelle Pineda, MBA. All OMIC-insured professionals who attend her presentation are eligible for a policy discount: 10% off for current GSO members and 5% off for non-members.

Don't delay: the holiday season is upon us and schedules will only get busier from now on. Early registration ends January 8, so go to www.ga-eyemds.org to sign up online and check "Register 4 GEM" off your to-do list. A block of rooms has been reserved for meeting attendees at a discounted rate—call 404-365-0065 and mention the "GEM Eye Meeting" or click [HERE](#) to book online. See you there!



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