



November 2023



Dr. Kelton Stewart
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Greetings GLAO family,

I hope that you all have been well since the recent annual session in National Harbor, Maryland. I would like to thank you all for the opportunity to serve as the GLAO President. It is truly an honor and privilege to serve you in this capacity and I look forward to partnering with you all to advance our organization and profession over the next year. As 2023 comes to a close, I wanted to highlight some of the wonderful achievements that we accomplished this year.

During the 2023 Annual Session, we had a record number of residents at the meeting. This is extremely encouraging as we try to instill within them the importance of being involved in organized orthodontics. I would like to thank Dr. J. Martin Palomo for serving as a champion for resident engagement, and also the constituent's many residency program directors for allowing our residents to attend the meeting this year. Over the last year, the GLAO hosted several Coffee Chats that were very informative for those in attendance. Our most recent GLAO Coffee Chat featured Dr. Jashleen Bedi who highlighted the AAO Bullying Bites Initiative, as well as recent AAO advocacy achievements.

In early 2024, the GLAO will engage in the process of reviewing and modifying its strategic plan. The AAO recently conducted a similar strategic plan update, and we will work to ensure that our updated plan not only helps us achieve our desired mission and goals but also aligns well with the priorities of our parent organization. The GLAO's current strategic plan can be viewed on our [website](#) and the AAO's current strategic plan can be found using the following link [AAO Strategic Plan 2023-2027](#).

Finally, if any member has any ideas of ways that the GLAO can better support you and your teams or other initiatives that the GLAO can execute to better support our communities, please share your thoughts with any of the GLAO leadership.

I hope that you all have a wonderful and relaxing holiday season and I look forward to working with you all over the next year to help take the GLAO to higher heights.

Respectfully submitted,

Mark Your Calendars and Plan to Attend!



Member News

The GLAO/MASO 2023 Annual Session was a Success!



Thanks to all who attended and supported the 2023 GLAO/MASO Annual Session in National Harbor! The Annual Session provided great opportunities for networking and education for doctors, residents and staff. The **Taste of DC & Maryland Reception** did not disappoint. A record number of residents attended from many of the universities in the GLAO & MASO regions and those residents participated in a **Residents Forum & Residents Reception** where they had an opportunity to interact and discuss issues important to them. The **GLAO/TP Orthodontics Resident Scholarships** were awarded during the GLAO Annual Member Business Meeting where GLAO leaders were recognized for their commitment to the profession. Educators in the GLAO/MASO regions met at the annual **Educators Meet Up**. Thanks to all the companies who exhibited, providing the latest in orthodontic products and services and thank you to our partners for their generosity and support. We look forward to seeing the GLAO members next year at The Westin Beach Resort & Spa at Frenchman's Reef in St. Thomas US Virgin Islands!

[Click Here](#) to view photos from the 2023 Annual Session .

Congratulations to the Newly Elected Officers for 2024!



(Left to Right) Dr. Kelton T. Stewart, President; Dr. Marian Wolford, Secretary/Treasurer; Dr. Scott O. Schulz, President-Elect; Dr. Mariela Anderson, Vice President

2023 GLAO Awards Recipients!



Dr. Robert F. Good II and Dr. Ronald S. Good received the 2023 GLAO Distinguished Service Award



Dr. J. Martin Palomo received the GLAO President's Award

The Lindsey O. Kesling Orthodontic Resident Scholarship 2023 Award Recipients Announced

TP Orthodontics, Inc. in partnership with the GLAO, offers scholarships to residents attending orthodontic programs in the GLAO region. The *Lindsey O. Kesling Orthodontic Resident Scholarship Award* was created by TP Orthodontics, Inc. to give back to the orthodontic community in a way that helps residents, by easing a small part of their financial burden. Applicants submitted an essay on humanitarian / volunteer efforts made by the resident during their years of attendance at their orthodontic residency program. Since 2017, a total of \$69,500 has been awarded in scholarships and \$16,500 in TP Orthodontics product vouchers distributed. Twenty-eight residents have received scholarships, to date.

We are pleased to announce the following recipients of the 2023 Lindsey O. Kesling Orthodontic Resident Scholarships:

Dr. Lindsay Anderson - University of Michigan
Dr. Rachel Hoagburg – Indiana University
Dr. Sarah Kowalski – The Ohio State University
Dr. Sepideh Noruziaan – University of Western Ontario

Each of these scholarship recipients received a \$2,500 scholarship. Thank you to TP Orthodontics, Inc. and congratulations to these residents who are making a difference in their communities! Scholarship applications and additional information can be found at www.glao.org.

2023 GLAO Special Recognition Award to TP Orthodontics



The mission of the Great Lakes Association of Orthodontists (GLAO) is to advocate on behalf of its members and promote the advancement of the Specialty of Orthodontics. To achieve this aim, it takes a village including our elected leaders, members, and corporate partners. This year the GLAO would like to honor one of our many amazing corporate partners, TP Orthodontics, for their numerous contributions to the profession. They have served as an exemplar in our community and have demonstrated several attributes that have made them a truly invaluable member of our community. For several years, TP Orthodontics has shared their time and resources to enhance the knowledge and abilities of orthodontists in our constituency and around the world. Through their commitment, collaboration, and corporate leadership they have made a tremendous impact in the lives of our members, especially our residents. Since 2017, TP Orthodontics has conducted the Lindsey O. Kesling Orthodontic Resident Scholarship Award. This incredible initiative, created to honor Lindsey Kesling, has recognized the humanitarian efforts of 24 GLAO residents and awarded over \$60,000 to date. This award has been presented to students from every residency program within our region and has played a significant role in promoting the success of our young colleagues. With their member-focused efforts, TP Orthodontics has made a meaningful impact and established a rich legacy worth celebrating. As such, the GLAO is pleased to honor TP Orthodontics with a special recognition award for their exceptional

and consistent contributions to the orthodontic profession and commitment to elevating the quality of orthodontics within the region and beyond.

Kelton T. Stewart, DDS, MS
GLAO President

CONGRATULATIONS TO OUR NEWLY RETIRED MEMBERS!

Dr. James Abraham - *Greensburg, PA*
Dr. Karl Glander - *Indianapolis, IN*
Dr. Marc Fried - *Solon, OH*
Dr. Ron Iacobelli - *Clarkston, MI*
Dr. Christopher Kesling - *La Porte, IN*
Dr. Maria Pinzon - *Ann Arbor, MI*
Dr. David Secord - *Glen Arbor, MI*
Dr. Mindy Stroom - *Solon, OH*
Dr. Baron Whateley - *Fort Wayne, IN*

**The GLAO has been notified of the passing of this member.
Our thoughts are with his family members.**

Dr. Shabbir Adenwalla - *Westlake, OH*
Dr. Edward Charles Williams - *Alanson, MI*

Get Connected

- Join the **GLAO Facebook Page!**
[Click Here](#) and sign into Facebook and follow our page.



- **NEW! Join the GLAO on Instagram!**
[Click Here](#) and sign into Instagram and follow us.



- Make sure the AAO has your current **email address** on file. We use that email address to stay in touch with you via e-blast like this one.

AAO Trustee Report

**Meeting Our Members
Where They are at**

One of the core values of the AAO is “Our members come first”. With the rapid evolution of information technology, including disruptors such as Chat GPT, and the diversity of our membership including the ways they seek, engage, and consume information creates a challenge for the AAO to continue to provide the greatest value to our membership. At the recent meeting of the AAO Board of Trustees, this specific issue was discussed, and plans are underway to develop a better understanding of various unique member segments and to investigate new technologies that will serve the needs of these groups.



Dr. Michael W. Sherman
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Last year, the Committee on Conferences and Meetings (CCon) developed “Personas” for attendees for Annual Session. This allowed members with common interests (segment of our membership) to more easily find the track of continuing education that suited the needs of this segment. Member feedback from our 2023 Annual Session in Chicago, reinforced that this new way of organizing the meeting was very well received.

[Click Here](#) to read more.

ABO News and Information

The American Board of Orthodontics (ABO) is proud to announce that 61% of the American Association of Orthodontists (AAO) are now board certified! Board certification continues to set the standard of care for the specialty. We are leading the way - together!

Future Examination Dates Announced

- **Written Examination:** The 2024 Written Exam will be held on April 2. The exam will be administered at Pearson-Vue Centers in the United States and Canada.
- **Scenario-based Clinical Examination:** The 2024 Clinical Examinations will be administered February 22-23 (*registration for this exam is **FULL***) and September 17 (registration now open). The examinations will be held at Pearson-Vue Centers Worldwide.



Dr. Anthony M. Puntillo
ABO Director
dr.p@pandcsmiles.com

Certification Renewal Reminder

ABO certification renewal is an important component of the board certification process. Successful completion of the examination is required every 10 years to maintain an active board certification status. The process may be started no

earlier than 36 months prior to the expiration date printed on your board-certified certificate. ABO communications are distributed regularly to those up for renewal. There are two options to complete the exam including a mail-in case report exam or an online board case exam. Both options also require the completion of an AJODO continuing education component. Online materials are available to prepare for the Certification Renewal Examination and include a Study Guide with FAQs, and a [video](#), summarizing the process

[Click Here](#) to read more.

AAO PAC

AAO ADVOCACY GOES LOCAL!

Members of the AAO, including myself and Dr. Dale Anne Featheringham, met with officials at the Ohio Statehouse on November 8. This was the first time that orthodontist representatives of the AAO have ventured into advocacy at the state level in Ohio. The meeting was primarily for the sake of introducing the AAO and our interests, but thanks to our local lobbyists it was quite productive. We had the opportunity to meet with Ohio's Attorney General, Dave Yost, as well as a high level DOH official, and several state Senators and Representatives. The topics discussed were protection of Ohio's teledentistry statute, student debt and the possibility of linking that issue to areas that are underserved in Ohio. The response was very positive. I am encouraged that the AAO's National Advocacy efforts are going to be fruitful in Ohio.



Dr. Phillip Beckwith
GLAO Representative to
AAOPAC
pjbortho@aol.com

The AAOPAC met with COGA in St. Louis on November 10, 11. Our relationship with [MMS](#), which has been very successful in raising PAC dollars, was renewed at this meeting.

Please do not forget that our PAC contributions are being tracked according to fiscal year, June 1 to May 31. As I reported previously, our outstanding success in raising PAC dollars in FY 2022-23 has created expectations for an even better result in this Fiscal Year. Our goal is \$430,000. The AAO advocacy team has set goals for each constituent-

- The contributor for the GLAO is 173. As of October, the number of GLAO contributors is 35.
- The contribution goal for the GLAO is \$47,240. As of October, the GLAO has contributed \$10,130.

With nearly half the FY passed, there is quite a gap between the real and the expected. The GLAO was the pride of the AAO when our delegation was the first to meet the Annual Session challenge. I hope our region will continue to be a PAC leader!

[Click Here](#) to read more
[Ohio State Lobby Day](#)

GLAO Component Updates

Below are links to the most current reports.

Indiana

[Report](#) (as of 08-15-23)

Dr. Lana Helms..... lrhelms@sbcglobal.net

Michigan

[Report](#) (as of 02-15-23)

Dr. Fatima Ahmed..... ahmedfa@umich.edu

Ontario

[Report](#) (as of 11-15-23)

Dr. Girish Deshpande..... drgdeshpande@gmail.com

Ohio

[Report](#) (as of 11-15-23)

[Ohio State Lobby Day](#)

Dr. Dale Anne Featheringham..... dfeatheringham@aaortho.org

Pennsylvania

[Report](#) (as of 05-16-23)

Dr. Dana Craig..... dana.craig22@gmail.com

AAO Council Featured Reports

AAO Council on Education Update

The Council on Education (COE) met in-person at the AAO Headquarters in Saint Louis on October 2nd, 2023. Some of the highlights are described below.

Updates from the Society of Educators

- In 2024, the program will take place on Friday, May 3, in New Orleans.
- The tentative schedule is 10:30 am registration, 11:00 lunch, 11:30 – 4:15 program, and 4:15 – 5 pm reception.
- SOE will also again, have a mentoring / panel discussion for young and new educators at Annual Session. The first session was held in Chicago 2023. The overall goal of the program is to provide a mentoring opportunity exclusively for this targeted audience. The name of the program moving forward is Mentoring Moments for Young Educators and



Dr. J. Martin Palomo
jmp5@case.edu

it will be held tentatively on Sunday morning after the AAOF breakfast.

- SOE will continue with their complimentary webinar programming from fall through winter 2024.

[Click Here](#) to read more.

AAO Council on Communications Update

The COC meets regularly, every other month virtually. Our last in-person meeting was February 3-4, 2023, and we are meeting again on September 29-30, 2023.

Below are the Consumer Awareness Program & Member Marketing highlights for the full FY23 and Q1 FY24.



Dr. Jashleen Bedi
jbedidmd@gmail.com

CONSUMER AWARENESS PROGRAM (CAP) UPDATES

The AAO CAP is the only mass campaign promoting orthodontic treatment by an orthodontist. The CAP is digitally focused; the objective of the CAP is to educate the public by driving them to the AAO consumer website.

FY22-23 Performance through the end of the fiscal year

- Over **6.1 million visits** to aaoinfo.org, a 32% increase over the fiscal year goal.
- More than **165 million video views**.
- Over **750 million digital media impressions**.
- Over **4 million visits to the "Find an Orthodontist" page**

And we are starting FY24 in Q1 very strong:

- Driving over **2.5 million users** to the site so far this year. That's double the number of users from Q1 FY23 and 36% above our FY24 goal!
- **350 million ad impressions** this quarter
- **3.6 million ad clicks**

[Click Here](#) to read more.

Below are links to the most current AAO Council Reports.

Council on Communications (COC)

[Report](#) (as of 07-18-23) [AAO CAP and Member Communications](#)

Dr. Jashleen Bedi.....jbedidmd@gmail.com

Council on Governmental Advocacy (COGA)

[Report](#) (as of 08-15-23)

Dr. Valerie Martone.....valeriemartone2@gmail.com

Council on Membership, Ethics, and Judicial Concerns (COMEJC)

[Report](#) (as of 02-20-23)

Dr. Stephen Belli..... docbelli214@gmail.com

Council on New and Younger Members (CONYM)

[Report](#) (as of 05-15-2)

Dr. Kaitrin Kramer..... kaitrinkramer2@gmail.com

Council on Orthodontic Education (COE)

[Report](#) (as of 11-15-23)

Dr. J. Martin Palomo jmp5@case.edu

Council on Orthodontic Benefits (COB)

[Report](#) (as of 07-19-23)

Dr. Tasha Hall..... tashahall828@gmail.com

Council on Orthodontic Practice (COOP)

[Report](#) (as of 08-15-23)

Dr. Lana Helms..... lrhelms@sbcglobal.net

Council on Scientific Affairs (COSA)

[Report](#) (as of 08-15-23)

Dr. Marilia Yatabe Ioshida msyatabe@umich.edu

[Special Committee on Women Orthodontists \(SCWO\)](#) (as of 08-15-23)

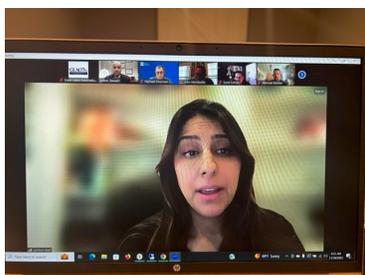
GLAO MEMBERS:

Click [HERE](#) to learn more about the AAOPAC and consider making a contribution.

Click [HERE](#) to learn more about the AAO Foundation and consider making a donation.

GLAO Information

GLAO Coffee Chats



Thanks to all who participated in the GLAO Coffee Chat on November 18th! Approximately 30 members joined the chat on that Saturday morning to hear about National Orthodontic Health Month and the AAO's national anti-bullying initiative. Advocacy updates and outcomes were also shared. Thanks to **Dr. Jashleen Bedi**, GLAO Council on Communications Representative, for her

information sharing, and to **Dr. Kelton Stewart**, GLAO President, for moderating the discussion.

Have an idea for a future Coffee Chat? Want to learn more about a topic or share your expertise? Send your ideas to GLAO@AssnOffices.com.

Consider Serving the GLAO in a Leadership Capacity!

The GLAO Leadership is seeking interested and qualified candidates for the following positions, with terms beginning in May, 2024. Please review the position descriptions below:

- **Council on Membership, Ethics and Judicial Concerns (COMEJC) - [position description](#)**
- **Director to the American Association of Orthodontists Foundation (AAOF) - [position description](#)**

If you are interested in serving the GLAO in one of these roles, please submit a letter of interest and CV to the GLAO office GLAO@AssnOffices.com, no later than February 15, 2024. Please indicate which position you are interested in serving as the representative. The GLAO Board will make these appointments in March 2024 at the Ad Interim Board Meeting.

- **GLAO Delegates to the AAO:**

The AAO House of Delegates is the ultimate governing body of the AAO and meets every year at the AAO annual session. Members of the Great Lakes Association of Orthodontists serve as our representatives to the AAO House of Delegates. Delegates and Alternate Delegates are elected annually by the GLAO membership. Those elected will serve a two-year term. [Click here](#) to view the position description.



If you are interested in serving the GLAO as a Delegate at the 2025 and 2026 AAO House of Delegates, please submit a letter of interest to the GLAO office at GLAO@AssnOffices.com by March 1, 2024. If you have any questions about this position, please contact the GLAO office (877-274-6420; GLAO@AssnOffices.com). Thank you for your consideration!

AAO Information

Donated Orthodontic Services



DOS
Donated Orthodontic Services

AAOF
American Association of
Orthodontists Foundation



VOLUNTEER

Help a child in need access a healthy smile by donating your time and services in your community.

AAO FOUNDATION DOES THE BEHIND THE SCENES WORK TO QUALIFY APPLICANTS IN NEED.

CONTACT US:

 jstocks@aaortho.org

 314.292.6582

 <https://www.aaofoundation.net/volunteer>



Since its inception more than a decade ago, the Donated Orthodontic Services (DOS) program has provided orthodontic treatment for over 1,000 children from families with a financial need. Today, our purpose remains the same - create opportunities for children to have access to professional orthodontic intervention through a volunteer network of AAO members.

DOS is a program of the American Association of Orthodontists Foundation (AAOF) that serves as a conduit to orthodontic treatment for children who lack access to care.

Through the DOS program, children receive help during a critical time in their development where bullying and self-esteem issues are prevalent. Ultimately, we want children to feel more confident as they move forward in life with their best smile.

Why Serve as a Program Provider?

While some orthodontists choose to affiliate with similar outreach programs or seek-out pro bono cases on their own, doctors often decide to serve through DOS because the program takes all the guesswork out of volunteering.

- All applicants are vetted by the DOS Program Administrator who handles the behind-the-scenes components of the process. Note, additional criteria, such as proof of a Medicaid denial, can also be added to the vetting process to meet the specific policies of your practice.
- Applicant families are required to show proof of financial need and each child must be evaluated by their general dentist.
- Volunteers decide how many cases per year to accept, and always have the final say when it comes to accepting a new case for treatment.

DOS has received applications and is in need of DOS volunteers in the following cities, within the GLAO:

Indiana: Amboy, Bargersville, Greenfield, Michigan City, Mishawaka

Michigan: Mason, Milford

Ohio: Cincinnati, Defiance

AAO National Advocacy Network (NAN)

In October of 2022, the inaugural, award-winning AAO National Advocacy Network (NAN) was established. Since that time, AAO leadership and advocacy staff have worked tirelessly to recruit and engage volunteer leadership within this new structure. There are two opportunities within the NAN that exist:

- The Component Advocacy Liaison, open to US and Canadian membership
- The AAOPAC Captain, open to US citizens and permanent residents only

Today, we invite you to join the candidate search within every state and province across the United States and Canada with possible opportunities for two roles. The ideal NAN candidate for either opportunity will:

- Be willing to participate in internal and external meetings for AAO (virtual and in-person)
- Possess strong attention to detail and organization, as well as relationship building skills and the ability to maintain levels of confidentiality
- Commit to recruiting new NAN leaders for growth & sustainability
- Be comfortable with a time commitment of up to four hours anticipated monthly for success in this role, and a minimum 2-year commitment to the service leadership role (volunteer)

We would like to recognize the following individuals who currently serve the National Advocacy Network and call GLAO home:

- **Dr. Tasha Hall**, AAOPAC Captain (Indiana)
- **Dr. John Monticello**, Component Advocacy Liaison (Michigan)
- **Dr. George Bork**, AAOPAC Captain (Michigan)
- **Dr. Dale Anne Featheringham**, AAOPAC Captain (Ohio)
- **Dr. Mariela Anderson**, Component Advocacy Liaison (Ontario, Canada)
- **Dr. Jennifer Nguyen Seo**, CAL Team: COA & Dental Specialty Provincial Liaison (Ontario, Canada)

We are recruiting for a Component Advocacy Liaison (CAL) in Indiana, Ohio, and Pennsylvania, and an AAOPAC Captain in Pennsylvania. We will continue to build state Component Advocacy Liaison teams in all states, so even if there has been a CAL identified in a state listed above, we encourage you to reach out to be considered as a part of the NAN Team in that state.

Interested AAO members can reach out to Kim VanVeen, AAO Specialist of Grassroots and Digital Advocacy, at KVanVeen@aaortho.org, or send the text message “NAN” to 52886, and Kim will set up time to discuss the opportunities.

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