

February 2024



Dr. Kelton Stewart
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Greetings GLAO family,

It is my most sincere hope that each of you are doing well and have enjoyed the first few weeks of 2024.

At the end of January, the AAO facilitated its annual **Leadership Development Conference**. The purpose of this conference is to empower our current and future leaders with the knowledge and skills needed to serve the organization in a leadership capacity.

There were well over 250 attendees at the conference and by all accounts it was a very positive and productive event. There were 11 conference attendees from the GLAO, and we had great representation from all our components. Included in this number were 4 GLAO resident attendees, which I found to be extremely exciting! Their early participation in an event meant to enhance their leadership abilities bodes well for the future of the GLAO and our profession. I would like to thank Debbie, Karla, and the many GLAO members who took the time to recommend these wonderful individuals to participate this year.

[Click Here](#) to read more.

[Mark Your Calendars and Plan to Attend!](#)

Registration Coming Soon!





2024 AAO Leadership Development Conference

GLAO Constituent Leaders, Component Leaders, and Residents participated in the AAO Leadership Development Conference on January 25th in San Antonio, TX. The conference provided an opportunity for participants to network with peers and learn about leading their organizations, available resources and current trends that impact their organizations and the orthodontic profession!

The GLAO was well-represented with participation from the following members:

Dr. George Bork (MI), Dr. Manish Valiathan (OH), Dr. Ariel Wong (IN), Dr. Kelton Stewart (IN), Dr. Jennifer Nguyen (Resident, Western University), Dr. Mark Finkelstein (Resident, The Ohio State University), Dr. Ashley Phuong (Resident, Western University), Dr. Terry Apkua (Resident, Case Western University), Dr. Sepideh Noruziaan (Resident, Western University), Dr. Michael Sherman (AAO Trustee, ON), Ms. Debbie Nunner (GLAO Executive Director). Thanks to all these members who took the time to participate in this conference!

***Join your GLAO colleagues for a COFFEE CHAT
Saturday, April 13th, 8:30-9:30 am ET***



GLAO Virtual Coffee Chats provide an opportunity for informal discussion and interactions with GLAO leaders and colleagues on topics of interest.

The next Coffee Chat will take place on Saturday, April 13th, 8:30-9:30am and the discussion topic will be **Improving Sustainability in Your Orthodontic Office**. The session will feature **Dr. Laurie Houston**. Dr. Houston has been in private practice for nearly 40 years, is the Chair of the Environmental Sustainability Working Group of the Ontario Dental Association (ODA), a director on the ODA Board, and the Founder of CanHelp Through HealthCare (chthc.org). GLAO Ontario Director, Dr. Girish Deshpande, will serve as Moderator for the interactive discussion.

Sign up today to receive your Zoom link and add it to your calendar.

[SIGN UP HERE](#)

CONGRATULATIONS TO OUR NEWLY RETIRED MEMBERS!

Dr. Charles Boester - *Richfield, OH*
Dr. Dale Davis - *Midland, MI*
Dr. Paul Ward - *Lansing, MI*

The GLAO has been notified of the passing of these members. Our thoughts are with their family members.

Dr. Donald Peppercorn - *Beachwood, OH*
Dr. William D. Plikerd - *Newark, OH*

**GLAO Leadership Spotlight -
Meet Our Michigan Leaders**



[Meet Dr. Fatima Ahmed](#)



[Meet Dr. Jashleen Bedi](#)



[Meet Dr. Scott Schulz](#)

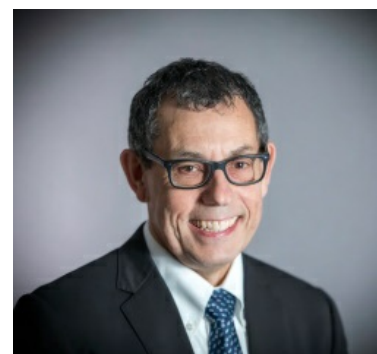


[Meet Dr. Marilia Yatabe](#)

AAO Trustee Report

AAO Volunteer Efforts by time commitment: What is a good fit for you?

In my opinion, there are three major categories of effort for volunteer time commitment. The first level, that requires minimal time commitment, is making a financial contribution or “donation”. The second level, that requires a little more time commitment is a “one-time experience”. Finally, the third level, that requires even more commitment of your time is a “regular ongoing



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experience". I will briefly describe how you can get involved/volunteer with the AAO at the commitment levels of "donations" and "regular ongoing experience", but I will focus on the "one-time experience" as it relates to the AAO House of Delegates.

[Click Here](#) to read more.

ABO News and Information

The American Board of Orthodontics (ABO) is proud 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!



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

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. Beginning in 2025, the ABO will transition to one fall Scenario-based Clinical Examination per year.

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. Board-certified orthodontists are notified 3 years prior to the expiration date printed on their certificate that they are eligible to take the Certification Renewal Examination. You have two options to renew, including an Online Board Case Exam or a Mail-In Case Report Exam, along with completing continuing education credits from four online AJODO examinations. 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.

ABO Announces Newly Recertified Orthodontists

"On behalf of the American Board of Orthodontics, I congratulate the

orthodontists who have recently completed the Board certification or certification renewal process,” said Dr. Timothy Trulove, ABO 2023-2024 president. “They are to be commended for their professional commitment by becoming Board certified, and it demonstrates their willingness to protect the public through the delivery of excellent orthodontic care.”

The following are the recertified orthodontists in the GLAO.

Dr. Marsha L. Beattie
Dr. Richard Friedman
Dr. Tracey J. Hendler

Dr. Amy N. Isenberg
Dr. Laura M. Streit
Dr. Aristidis G. Thanasas

AAO PAC

Consider the National Advocacy Network Today!

The legislative process, and those who serve in Congress, is constantly changing. Whether we seek to support legislation or regulation that will improve patient care or to prevent anything that could impede the ability to treat patients, it is important to be engaged in the process and proactive. With this comes an emergent need to ensure that our interests are best represented at state and provincial legislatures and within state and provincial regulatory bodies. There has never been a better time to get involved at the ground level as an advocacy volunteer leader at the AAO – which is why we invite you to consider applying for the National Advocacy Network (NAN).



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

Within the NAN there are opportunities to lead the charge within your home component and across the United States and Canada to inspire real, ground-breaking change – both within your own community and across state and provincial lines to the U.S. Congress and Canadian Parliament.

[Click Here](#) to read more

GLAO Component Updates

Below are links to the most current reports.

[Indiana](#)

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

[Michigan](#)

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

[Ontario](#)

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

Ohio

Ohio State Lobby Day

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

Pennsylvania

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

AAO Council Featured Reports

AAO Council on Orthodontic Practice Update

The Council on Orthodontic Practice met for its annual meeting in St. Louis on December 9, 2023. Here is a synopsis of projects and subcommittees within the council:

Office Design: COOP is recommending to the BOT for ongoing funding to keep content for the AAO’s Office Design Series updated and relevant-Ongoing

Sustainability: In Summer 2023, COOP formed a sustainability subcommittee. Dr. Goodman reported progress to date.



Dr. Lana Helms
lrhelms@sbcglobal.net

Based on Dr. Goodman’s report out, COOP unanimously agreed that there is a need to implement sustainability efforts based on the volume of product creation and waste with 3D printing and clear aligners.

The COOP subcommittee was introduced to representatives at Terracycle through Mindi Brothers who had spoken to Terracycle in previous years regarding a potential member benefit initiative.

(<https://www.terracycle.com/en-US>) They are the leader and the best equipped vendor to provide a program such as this.

A multi-step initiative was shared and formalized to include (1) a volunteer recycling program to include recycling clear aligner trays, 3D print materials, PPE, plastic packaging, and office supplies. With project management, reporting and aid with promotional content from Terracycle*. (2) A member wide volunteer program similar to MASO’s “Go Green” effort. (<https://maso.org/go-green/>) giving offices the option to take a pledge to stop using plastic bags with AAO providing an initial shipment of 50 free paper bags and resources to purchase future bags. (3) New member sustainability webpage providing information on items 1 & 2, as well as updates on sustainability efforts and custom-designed downloadable resources for members to use in their practices. (4) A sustainability page on our public facing AAO website detailing AAO and members sustainability efforts. -Phase one completion is three years from

start date.

[Click Here](#) to read more.

AAO Council on Membership, Ethics and Judicial Concerns Update

HOD Resolutions

- COMEJC is submitting resolutions to the 2024 AAO House of Delegates to propose the following:
 - Implement a trial membership for orthodontists who are eligible for Active Membership and have never been AAO members previously, except for those who have been Student Members. If approved, the program would be implemented on a pilot basis for four years.
 - Extend the international bulk membership dues pilot by one year. This pilot, which is scheduled to end in May 2024, gives the Board of Trustees authority to negotiate and approve bulk dues amounts with international orthodontic societies.
 - Amend Bylaws to remove outdated language regarding eligibility of International Members who relocate to the U.S. and Canada and teach full-time at an accredited orthodontic program.
 - Amend Bylaws to more clearly define Retired Membership and eligibility.



Dr. Stephen Belli
drbelli@bellistreitsmiles.com

[Click Here](#) to read more.

Below are links to the most current AAO Council Reports.

[Council on Communications \(COC\)](#)
[AAO CAP and Member Communications](#)

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

[Council on Governmental Advocacy \(COGA\)](#)

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

[Council on Membership, Ethics, and Judicial Concerns \(COMEJC\)](#)

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

[Council on New and Younger Members \(CONYM\)](#)

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

Council on Orthodontic Education (COE)

Dr. J. Martin Palomo.....jmp5@case.edu

Council on Orthodontic Benefits (COB)

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

Council on Orthodontic Practice (COOP)

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

Council on Scientific Affairs (COSA)

Dr. Marilia Yatabe Ioshidamsyatabe@umich.edu

Special Committee on Women Orthodontists (SCWO)

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

Wineries, Theatres, Cycling & a Full Day with Dr. Neal Kravitz



REGISTER HERE



Ontario Association
of Orthodontists
Scientific Meeting

May 31st - June 2nd, 2024
Queen's Landing Hotel,
Niagara-on-the Lake



NIAGARA-ON-THE-LAKE

Fifth Biennial Scientific Meeting

MAY 31 – JUNE 2, 2024



For more info, go to oaomeeting.ca | 1 888 788 4898 | info@oao.on.ca

Consider Serving the GLAO in a Leadership Capacity!

- 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!

Donated Orthodontic Services

DOS | **AAOF**
Donated Orthodontic Services | 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

To learn more about the program or becoming a DOS volunteer, contact DOS Program Administrator, at dos@aaortho.org or (314) 292 – 6582.

If Not You, then Who?

Join the National Advocacy Network Today!

The legislative process, and those who serve in Congress, is constantly changing. Whether we seek to support legislation or regulation that will improve patient care or to prevent anything that could impede the ability to treat patients, it is important to be engaged in the process and proactive. With this comes an emergent need to ensure our interests are best represented at state and provincial legislatures and within state and provincial regulatory bodies. There has never been a better time to get involved at the ground level as an advocacy volunteer leader at the AAO – which is why we invite you to consider applying for the National Advocacy Network (NAN).

Within the NAN there are opportunities to lead the charge within your home component and across the United States and Canada to inspire real, ground-breaking change – both within your own community and across state and provincial lines to the U.S. Congress and Canadian Parliament.

An inaugural opportunity exists in the form of the newly established and award-winning National Advocacy Network. Two distinct roles are available to U.S. and Canadian members, and we invite you now to join the outstanding roster of changemakers who have stepped up to lead the charge in not just raising AAOPAC contributions to aid our federal legislative and regulatory work – but to protect and defend the specialty at home.

There are two ways for you to become more involved:

- Component Advocacy Liaison (CAL): open to U.S. and Canadian membership
- AAOPAC Captain: open to US membership

Where there is existing NAN leadership, we continue to recruit for members to join these powerful state and provincial teams – so if you are interested in learning more about how to get involved and make a stand today but aren't sure what to do next, just take it from one of our very own Component Advocacy Liaisons, Dr. Christina Aponte (CAL-NY):

Many residents and new orthodontists might think that leadership opportunities within the AAO require significant experience and years to become involved.

The National Advocacy Network (NAN) is a worthwhile opportunity for AAO members at any stage of their career... There is a place, and a role, for every interested member, and I highly encourage any AAO member looking to get involved to consider joining this volunteer leadership team and making a difference for our profession and our patients.

If you'd like to learn more, text "NAN" to 52886, or email Kim VanVeen, AAO Specialist of Grassroots and Digital Advocacy (kvanveen@aaortho.org).

Together, we can – and will – lead the charge of protecting patient health.

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.
-

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