



*Official Journal of the  
American Society of  
Ocularists*

# JOURNAL OF OPHTHALMIC PROSTHETICS

VOLUME 10 • NUMBER 1

FALL 2005

ISSN 1091-2983

ISBN 1-886236-48-8

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Single copy price for the Journal is US\$35.00/copy for North American orders and US\$45.00 overseas. North American Subscriptions are offered on an annual basis at US\$30.00 a year. Overseas subscription price (including air shipping) is US\$40.00. All Payment should be in US\$, and may be by check, postal money order, or Visa/MC.

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P.O. Box 149

St. Peterburg, FL 33731

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Toll Free in North America (800) 551-7776

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**VOLUME 10, NO. 1**

FALL 2005

Official Journal of the American Society of Ocularists, formerly titled *Journal of the American Society of Ocularists*

ISSN 1091-2983

ISBN 1-886236-48-8

Published by

ABI Professional Publications

P.O. Box 149

St. Petersburg, FL 33731

Tel: (727) 556-0950

Fax: (727) 556-2560

Web site: [www.abipropub.com](http://www.abipropub.com)

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# President's Message



This may seem like just another issue of the Journal of Ophthalmic Prosthetics. It is actually an accomplishment, quite an accomplishment! Every writer gave their journal article countless hours of creativity, brain-picking, searching, rewriting, self-questioning, and plain energy. It is also a window for all to see inside our society, the American Society of Ocularists. The ASO is dedicated to research and education. Our education program is unique in the world. Many of our members are from all over the world. As the Journal evolved, so did the ASO. Offering more to more people is the key phrase.

As your president, I have the honor to serve you, but I am not alone on the job. Being more involved than ever with our society, I am astounded at the number of fine and dedicated volunteers responsible for the many tasks in the many committees. This journal is one of the accomplishments of our very capable members.

Jim Willis asked to be replaced as our senior editor. Jim gave us seven years of his energy as our senior editor and almost two decades as an active member of the editorial board of our Journal. Jim goes back to a time when Joe LeGrand, Sr., then our senior editor welcomed him. We thank Jim for continuing to carry the flame and for carrying it further. Here's to you Jim. Salute, Jim!

This issue marks the entrance of a new senior editor, Michael O. Hughes. Michael has been active with our journal for the past seven years. He is full of energy and loves doing this kind of work. Over the years, he has contributed many excellent articles. He is a hard worker. But even with the work of the Journal's editorial staff, he can't produce an issue without your help.

We need you to continue reading and learning from our journal, and we need you to write an article. We would love to see more authors submit new and innovative papers. Start with one and see how you like it. It will be a lot of work, but it will be quite an accomplishment.

Jean-François Durette, B.C.O., B.A.D.O.

## From the Senior Editor



**A**ccepting the senior editor's position earlier this year seemed like a good idea as I have always enjoyed reading the *Journal of Ophthalmic Prosthetics*. In previous years, I have anxiously awaited its delivery and (usually) read the entire journal the same day I received it. It is undoubtedly a top source for information regarding our unique profession. Only after taking on the "job" of senior editor, however, did I truly come to appreciate the many talented people who have helped create the journal, especially the writers.

I have been humbled by the enthusiastic support from our president, Francois Durette, and from Heather Banfield, our co-chairman on the education committee. Robert Thomas and the editorial board have responded to all my requests. The Journal's publisher, Art Brown, has always been accessible to my many questions and has produced a consistent, professional journal. We are lucky to have him.

Jim Willis, the former senior editor, needs to be recognized for his past work on the journal. He has held most positions involved in the journal in his 18 years of contributions. He has stayed on the Editorial Board and has fielded every question and concern I have asked in his steady, professional manner. Thanks, Jim.

I appreciate the opportunity to assist in generating *your* journal, and I eagerly anticipate feedback from the society on ways to improve it. What is the point of having experience, knowledge and talent if we do not share them? It is the giving and sharing of information that connects us with others in our profession. Ultimately, our patients are the benefactors.

Michael O. Hughes  
Senior Editor  
*Journal of Ophthalmic Prosthetics*

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# Announcements

- ▶ 2006 Mid-Year Meeting, May 19-24, Ft. Lauderdale, Florida
- ▶ 2006 Annual Meeting, November 11-16, Las Vegas, Nevada  
(In conjunction with the AAO meeting)
- ▶ 2007 Mid-Year Meeting, TBA
- ▶ 2007 Annual Meeting, November 10-15, New Orleans, Louisiana  
(In conjunction with the AAO meeting)
- ▶ 2008 Mid-Year Meeting, TBA
- ▶ 2008 Annual Meeting, Atlanta, Georgia (In conjunction with the AAO meeting)

The American Society of Ocularists is an international, non-profit, professional and educational organization founded in 1957 by technicians specializing in the fabricating and fitting of custom artificial eyes.

The organization's purpose is to improve and promote research in the development of ophthalmic prosthetics, to advance the methods, techniques, and skills of the ocularist membership, and to provide the public with continual improvement in all fields and activities in which ocularists engage. Our members adhere to the Society's Standard Operating Procedures for the fitting and fabrication of custom-made ophthalmic prosthetics.

Research, education, and standards form the benefits to our members. Persons presently working in ocularistry, or engaged in an ancillary business or profession, may apply for membership.

A training curriculum, developed and administered by the Education Committee of the ASO, provides courses at semi-annual conferences to prepare ocularists for certification and re-certification examinations of the National Examining Board of Ocularists.

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