

‘Telling It Like It Is’ speaks volumes for cataract surgery

Now in its seventh year, no-CME meeting brings more faculty, subspecialty content, wet labs

By Beth Thomas Hertz

NAPLES, FL ::

Each year, the “Cataract Surgery: Telling It Like It Is!” meeting abounds with cutting-edge clinical information, and all indications are the 2017 event will continue to deliver on expectations with more faculty, more subspecialty content, and more wet labs.

The seventh annual meeting, set for Jan. 25 to 29, will be held for the second year at the Naples Grande Beach Resort in Naples, FL, after outgrowing its previous venue in Sarasota. The meeting will again be organized by the American Academy of Ophthalmology.



Dr. Osher

Robert H. Osher, MD, course director and professor of ophthalmology, University of Cincinnati, said the high volume of ophthalmologists already registering for the meeting means organizers may have to look for yet another location for 2018.

“We pack an enormous amount of intense, useful clinical information into this meeting, and we do it in an innovative and entertaining format,” said Dr. Osher, who is also medical director emeritus, Cincinnati Eye Institute and editor of the *Video Journal of Cataract and Refractive Surgery*.

“We have an all-star faculty that provide the highest-quality, uncensored, education experience at half the price of comparable meetings,” he added. “It is no surprise we keep selling out. It is a tremendous value, and this is the fastest-growing meeting in ophthalmology.”

Dr. Osher noted he personally reads each evaluation received (525 total in 2016) and uses the feedback to improve each year.

WHAT'S IN STORE FOR 2017

As January grows closer, Dr. Osher expects 500 to 600 ophthalmologists will attend the 2017 meeting. With no continuing medical education (CME) credits offered to attendees, the program’s speakers are free to discuss cutting-edge and off-label topics, he said.

“We can teach how we want to teach,” Dr. Osher said. “There are no restrictions. No holds barred.”

In addition, more than 100 corporate exhibitors are expected to attend.

Educational sessions will be held from 7 a.m. to 11 p.m. daily, with content he promises will interest every ophthalmologist.

“From basic phaco techniques to intermediate problem-management skills to very advanced materials, we will show the extremes,” Dr. Osher said. “Our goal is for every attendee to become a more skilled, knowledgeable, and confident surgeon.”

Many new faculty members—all of whom are physicians dedicated to teaching—have been added.

“The real beauty of this meeting is that all of the faculty members are approachable and willing to answer questions before and after their sessions,” he said.

Thirty wet labs will be offered on Friday and Saturday afternoons, including five that Dr. Osher called “dramatically new topics.” Also new this year will be a variety of session on business principles and more subspecialty sessions.

“Many of these are educational topics you cannot get anywhere else,” he said.

‘Cataract Surgery: Telling It Like It Is!’

Wednesday, Jan. 25 to Sunday, Jan. 29

Naples Grande Beach Resort, FL

Conference Details

For more information, visit www.cstellingitlikeitis.com.

Wednesday, Jan. 25

Attendees who arrive early can participate in optional subspecialty sessions on neuro-ophthalmology, oncology, and uveitis.

The evening will feature an “Amazing Videos” session led by Dr. Osher.

Thursday, Jan. 26

Subspecialty events will continue **Thursday morning** with cornea, glaucoma, and

retina sessions. The meeting will officially open at 2 p.m., with “An Afternoon of Technology.” This will include an OCT showdown, with surgeons discussing their experiences with devices that include Carl Zeiss Meditec, Heidelberg Engineering, Nidek, Optovue, and Topcon.

An astigmatism showdown will include surgeons representing technologies from Abbott Medical Optics (AMO), Alcon Laboratories, Bausch + Lomb, and STAAR Surgical, followed by a presbyopia showdown, with re-

views of offerings from AcuFocus, Alcon, AMO, Bausch + Lomb, Lenstec, Presbia, PT, and Refocus Group.

A “Femtomania” showdown will have surgeons representing Alcon, AMO, Bausch + Lomb, CAPSULaser, Fortec Medical, LENSAR, Sightpath Medical, and Ziemer. The session will be balanced by surgeons who do not use femtosecond laser-assisted cataract surgery.

At 5 p.m., one of the keynote speakers, Douglas Koch, MD, will present new directions in refractive surgery. Later in the evening, a pos-

focal points

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(Required by 39 USC 3685)

terior cornea update will be held with Dr. Koch and surgeons representing Cassini, Oculus, Optovue, and Ziemer. The evening will cap off with an OMIC risk management symposium with Christopher Rapuano, MD.

Friday, Jan. 27

The day will start with "A Morning of Routine and Challenging Cases." This will include "Intra-Cameral Devices" with Ike Ahmed, MD, and Dr. Koch; and "My Routine Case" with Dr. Ahmed and Michael Snyder, MD, Warren Hill, MD, Robert Weinstock, MD, Johnny Gayton, MD, Richard Packard, MD, DO, FRCS, FRCOphth, and William Fishkind, MD.

Dr. Osher will then present "Everyday Challenging Cases," which will be followed by "Challenging Cases: The Extremes" with Drs. Snyder and Ahmed. A keynote lecture on diagnosing a variety of lid lesions will be presented by Robert Kersten, MD, oculoplastic surgeon, University of California-San Francisco.

The afternoon will feature a variety of wet labs.

The evening will include "3D Symposium" with Drs. Weinstock and Ahmed, and Christopher Riemann, MD, followed by "Beware: Lids and Tears!" with John Sheppard, MD.

A sponsored dinner will focus on "Perioperative Drugs," led by Drs. Sheppard, Koch, and Gayton, and Deepinder Dhaliwal, MD, Anup Khatana, MD, and James Osher, MD.

Friday evening also will include "The Great Debates and Great Cases" with Dr. Weinstock and Toby Tyson, MD, Steve Safran, MD, R.J. Mackool, MD, Cathleen McCabe, MD, Dee Stephenson, MD, George Waring IV, MD, Bret Fisher, MD, Jonathan Solomon, MD, and Uday Devgan, MD.

Saturday, Jan. 28

The day will begin with "A Morning of Complication Manage-

ment." This will include "Optic Capture Rescues and Poor/Absent Posterior Capsule" with Drs. Snyder and Safran and "Complications Video Symposium" with Drs. Fishkind, Koch, and (Robert) Osher, and "Converting to ECCE and Negative Dysphotopsia" with Dr. Packard. Next up: "Unplanned Vitrectomy: The Best Way" with Lisa Arbisser, MD, and Drs. Riemann and James Osher, and "Posterior Capsulorhexis" with Drs. Arbisser, Packard, and Snyder.

The morning will finish out with a presentation by Dr. Packard, the International Guest of Honor, and the afternoon again will feature a wide variety of wet labs.

The evening will resume with a symposium on emmetropia. Topics will include toric alignment, aberrometry, and second-eye strategy. Speakers will include Drs. Hill and Koch and surgeons using Calisto, Eye Photo Systems, Holos, itrace, Leica, ORA, and Verion technologies. This symposium will be followed by "IOL Repositioning and Exchange" with Drs. Richard and R.J. Mackool, and Dr. Snyder.

Also this evening, the Young Ophthalmologists Forum will include Cathleen McCabe, MD, George Waring IV, MD, and Drs. Packard, Fishkind, Weinstock, and James and Robert Osher, followed by "Tonight It's About Me!" a session on ergonomics, health, and fitness with Anup Khatana, MD, and others. The evening will end with "IOL Materials."

Sunday, Jan. 29

The final day of the event will focus on "The Art of Cataract Surgery," with the topics, "IOL Selection and Essential Decisions" with Dr. Hill, and "What Do I Say to The Patient?" and "Leave Me A Pearl!" by a variety of faculty members. ■

A keynote lecture on diagnosing a variety of lid lesions will be presented by Robert Kersten, MD.

1. **Publication Title:** Ophthalmology Times
2. **Publication Number:** 0193-032X
3. **Filing Date:** 9/30/16
4. **Issue Frequency:** Semi-monthly except for one issue in Jan, May, Aug and Dec
5. **Number of Issues Published Annually:** 20
6. **Annual Subscription Price (if any):** \$200.00
7. **Complete Mailing Address of Known Office of Publication:**
131 West First Street, Duluth, St. Louis County, Minnesota 55802-2065
Contact Person: Molly Tomfohrde **Telephone:** 872-529-6874
8. **Complete Mailing Address of Headquarters or General Business Office of Publisher:**
2 Penn Plaza, 15th Floor, New York, NY 10121
9. **Full Names and Complete Mailing Addresses of Group Publisher:** John Schwartz, 2501 Colorado Ave., Suite 280, Santa Monica, CA 90404
Group Content Director: Mark L. Dlugoss, 24950 Country Club Blvd., No Olmsted, OH 44070
Content Channel Director: Sheryl Stevenson, 24950 Country Club Blvd., No Olmsted, OH 44070
10. **This publication is owned by:** Advanstar Communications Inc., 2 Penn Plaza, 15th Floor, New York, NY 10121. The sole shareholder of Advanstar Communications Inc. is: Rocket Holdings, Inc., 1983 Marcus Ave., Suite 205, Lake Success, NY 11042.
11. **Known Bondholders, Mortgages, and Other Security Holders Owning or Holding 1 Percent or More of Total Amounts of Bonds, Mortgages, or Other Securities. If none, check box.** None
12. **Does Not Apply**
13. **Publication Title:** Ophthalmology Times
14. **Issue Date for Circulation Data Below:** August 1, 2016
15. **Extent and Nature of Circulation**

	Average No. Copies Each Issue During Preceding 12 Months	No. Copies of Single Issue Published Nearest to Filing Date
A. Total Number of Copies	16,773	19,938
B. Legitimate Paid and/or Requested Distribution		
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2. In-County Paid/Requested Mail Subscriptions Stated on PS Form 3541	0	0
3. Sales Through Dealers and Carriers, Street Vendors, Counter Sales, and Other Paid or Requested Distribution Outside USPS	19	11
4. Requested Copies Distributed by Other Mail Classes Through the USPS	0	0
C. Total Paid and /or Requested Circulation (Sum of 15b (1), (2), (3), and (4))	9,831	11,678
D. Non-requested Distribution		
1. Outside County Non-requested Copies Stated on PS Form 3541	6,420	7,695
2. In-County Non-requested Copies Stated on PS Form 3541	0	0
3. Non-requested Copies Distributed Through the USPS by Other Classes of Mail	0	0
4. Non-requested Copies Distributed Outside the Mail	505	546
E. Total Non-requested Distribution (Sum of 15d (1), (2), (3) and (4))	6,925	8,241
F. Total Distribution (Sum of 15c and e)	16,756	19,919
G. Copies not Distributed	16	19
H. Total (Sum of 15f and g)	16,773	19,938
1. Percent Paid and/or Requested Circulation	58.67%	58.63%

16. **Electronic Copy Circulation**
*If you are not claiming electronic copies, skip to line 17
17. **Publication of Statement of Ownership for a Requester Publication is required and will be printed in the October 1 issue of this publication.**
Name and Title of Editor, Publisher, Business Manager, or Owner: Kristina Bildeaux, Audience Development Director
Signature:

Kristina Bildeaux

Date: 09/30/16
I certify that the statements made by me above are correct and complete.