



The California Paraoptometric Section is interested in having more volunteers serve on the section's board. Please join us in developing useful programs for our members, and to spread the word by recruiting new CPS members! Contact Kim Pantel for more information at khym@hotmail.com.

CPS Update

RAISING AWARENESS OF INFANTSEE

By Nannette Magnani, CPS Board Member

For the past six years, I have been the front desk receptionist at the office of Redwood Empire Optometric Society member Dr. Karen Griffith. Dr. Griffith just celebrated her 20th year in practice, located in Petaluma, CA. Her professionalism and integrity speaks volumes as her business is thriving. When Dr. Griffith signed up to be an InfantSEE® provider in 2005, she held a staff meeting to introduce all of us to this great program. What a wonderful gift to have some 7,000 optometrists nationwide participate in ensuring that no child will be plagued by a preventable eye, vision or possible developmental problem. Since that meeting, our staff has taken the importance of the InfantSEE program to heart.

Our staff is very kid-friendly, to say the least. We love children and most of us are mothers, so we can appreciate the needs of a busy lifestyle. While patients are getting exams, we often care for their children. My grandson (Dylan) was lucky to have had his first exam here with Dr. Griffith, and fortunately he was healthy.

We have implemented a few simple ideas to keep our patients informed about the InfantSEE program. We keep brochures visible in our reception area, and when a pregnant patient or parent with an infant comes in for their annual eye exam, we give them a brochure and invite them to make an appointment for their baby. We also focus on telling grandparents about the program. In addition, Dr. Griffith has taken brochures to local schools and community activities. We also have a newsletter that goes out to 3,000 families in Sonoma County twice a year and have featured articles that highlight the program. We feel it is our job to ensure these children have the opportunity for a comprehensive visual assessment.

I feel all staff members should know if their doctor is an InfantSEE provider. The first step in promoting this program is educating your staff so that they can help raise awareness on the importance of this effort. So, if you are a provider, please inform your staff and take the time to educate them about the program. We all get the chance to talk to our patients at some point of their exam; therefore we should all be knowledgeable about InfantSEE. It could help a child and a family.

WELCOME! New CPS Members

Jeannette Brown
Wendi Cornejo
Sheri Dutra
Sylvia Esquivel
Kim Fielding

Deena Fraser
Sylvia Gonzalez
Sarah Grabow
Natalie Huynn
Sharon Lopez

Margarita Maldonado
Arzen Menia
Jorge Nava
Thao Nguyen
Jennifer Pellegrini

Lisa Salvatore
Sumeet Singh
Sonia Vasquez
Mimi Waldrum
Lindy Yee