AAO Delegate Report 2014 New Orleans, LA

This year in New Orleans the SAO House of Delegates had a spirited discussion with the individual delegates doing their best to act in the best interests of the AAO as a whole. There were some specific actions taken by the House that should be of interest to the membership.

- **Board of Trustees** and **Council** terms were reduced in an effort to make these positions more reasonable regarding overall time commitment. The Past President position was eliminated leading to 10 years of service and the Council position was reduced to 2, 3 year terms.
- The **Governance Task Force** was reappointed and will continue to research and give information on restructure and modification of component makeup, governance structure, and volunteer leadership at all levels of our organization and any other topic that would benefit from review.
- The **Council on Insurance** has been restructured into committee form and will be appointed by the Board of Trustees.
- An Affordable Care Act Response Team has been created.
- A senior limited practice waiver of 50% of full dues and assessments may be requested by doctors under the age of 65 with at least 30 years of cumulative membership (excluding student membership) and who practice no more than 350 hours per year.
- Several AAO definitions/Positions were amended: The definition of Medically Necessary Orthodontic Care and the definition of Temporomandibular Disorders. Position statements were also revised regarding the Role of Specialists Overlap of Treatment Between Specialties, and the Ethical Practices of Specialists and also the Ethical Practice of Specialists.
- Dues remain at \$793 with an assessment of \$750.
- Removal of the ABO logo from the Doctor locator on the AAO website was discussed at great length and referred for further discussion to the 2015 House of Delegates.

As a new delegate to the AAO House of Delegates I have learned a considerable amount regarding the workings of our organization, the dedication of its members and the benefit that it provides to our profession. I sincerely appreciate the opportunity to serve the SAO and KAO and hope to continue in this capacity in the future. Please contact me regarding any issues that you feel need to be voiced to the SAO/AAO.

Sincerely,

Chris Howell DMD, MS chowell@mandhortho.com