GLAO Leadership Spotlight – Valerie Martone

Where are you from originally and where are you practicing now?

That is a great question. I was born in Lancaster, PA where my father was teaching agriculture education. We moved a lot because of his job, and I have lived in a few places in upstate New York, Northwestern Ohio, Philadelphia and West Chester, Pennsylvania. I followed my husband to Pittsburgh and ironically to his orthodontist's hometown, Beaver, PA where I now practice.

Where did you train? And what was your favorite part about your program?

I did my orthodontic training at Case Western Reserve University. My favorite parts of the program were learning growth and development from Dr. Don Enlow, the legacy of the Bolton-Brush Growth Center and expanding my critical thinking by practicing many different treatment philosophies.

What inspired you to pursue orthodontics?

I was a terrified dental patient growing up. When we moved to Ohio, my new dentist was great with terrified patients, and I had a much better experience at my dentist. At the same time, I started orthodontic treatment for an impacted canine, and these two experiences inspired my passion to become an orthodontist.

What brought you to your current practice/teaching location?

I associated with my husband's orthodontist and bought his practice in Beaver.

What is one thing that you did over the last year to improve your practice/school?

We learned how to use and implement Clarity indirect bonding in the practice.

What hobbies do you enjoy outside of orthodontics?

I enjoy gardening with flowers, doing Wentworth puzzles and traveling with my family.

What is the thing that you are most excited about within orthodontics?

I love to teach and share my experiences with young orthodontists.

Why are you involved in the GLAO?

I love to be involved in my profession and make our organization the best it can be. It is truly fun to work with this amazing group.