

BOARD MEMBER FEATURE:

Angela Oberreiter, O.D.

PROFILE

Dr. Oberreiter was born in St. Charles, MO, and was raised on her family farm in Wentzville, MO. She always knew that she wanted to have a job in the medical profession. “It’s always been my passion to help people.” In high school, she was instructed to write a career paper. After researching all the different medical professions and visiting her local optometrist for her severe nearsightedness, she began to look into Optometry as a profession. At the age of 16, she “fell in love with Optometry and never looked back.” She graduated from the University of MO-St. Louis, College of Optometry. She worked in corporate optometry right out of school. When they were opening a new office closer to her hometown, she moved to Springfield, IL, for what she thought was a one-year job. There, she met her husband of 14 years and has called Illinois home for 15.

AWARDS

Illinois Young OD of the Year 2011
IOA Public Health Director since 2018
Appointed by Governor Pritzker to IL State Public Health Board

WHAT SHE LOVES MOST ABOUT HER JOB

“It's unpredictable. Each day you never know what might walk in the door. A routine exam to an emergency foreign body removal to glaucoma follow-ups. Each day is unique. I also enjoy getting to know my patients.”

UNUSUAL OR SURPRISING DIAGNOSIS

“Unfortunately, it happens more often than not, but there were these 2 sisters that came in for their yearly exams. I was routinely following them for glasses and strabismus issues with stability for years. However, 2 years ago I diagnosed one of the sisters with papilledema, which later was confirmed to be pseudotumor cerebri. She was asymptomatic and has made a full recovery. However, this past year I diagnosed the other sister with the exact same thing. Both girls were in their teenage years.”

ADVICE FOR NEW OPTOMETRISTS

“I would recommend getting involved with your profession. Our profession is legislative, thus requires work to keep it going or to change it. But if you care enough and love the profession like I do, be a part of it. Don’t just watch from the sidelines.”

HOBBIES

Dr. Oberreiter has been married to her husband Scott for 14 years and has 2 boys, Isaac and Pierce and states that she can often be shy. She has numerous hobbies. “I enjoy watching my boys play soccer. Volunteering with Special Olympics and drinking wine with friends. I love to travel.”