

A • E • S • C
AMERICAN EYE STUDY CLUB

AESC New Member Fact Sheet

Updated: July 2014

These are some helpful points to keep in mind as you begin your membership in the American Eye Study Club. As always, Club officers and the members who nominated you are a great source of information or answers to your questions. Also, you may contact the Club's executive director, Rich Paul, at any time.

- AESC administrative office:
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Website: www.AmericanEyeStudyClub.org
- There are two main events held by the Club each year. The annual meeting typically is in the summer and is five days in length. A reception and business meeting/luncheon also are held during the American Academy of Ophthalmology annual meeting. You will receive information notices and registration materials for all of these events.
- The Club has a website with a wealth of information about events and its history. As information about the upcoming annual meeting and sessions during the AAO become available, details will be posted on the website.
- Be sure to review the Club's bylaws. There are some important items of note, particularly relating to attendance at AESC meetings for Active members. A copy of the bylaws appears in the back of the annual meeting program book and also is posted on the website.
- You will be an "Active" member for 10 years after which you graduate to "Emeritus" status. Rules pertaining to each of these member categories are listed in the bylaws.
- Dues notices are mailed to all Club members annually, usually in the late fall or right after the first of the year for the upcoming calendar year. Please pay promptly to avoid costly and time-consuming reminders.
- The Annual Meeting is a very *informal* event, and you are encouraged to bring your family. Spouses (or significant others) and children are invited to all social/recreational events. The dress code for the meeting is casual. Functions include two receptions, a banquet, a tennis tournament and a golf outing, as well as an ice cream social on the last afternoon of the conference. Other social or recreational events also may be scheduled, depending on the meeting venue.
- All members are encouraged to attend the *entire* annual meeting and not just one or two days. One of the Club's strongest traits is the camaraderie that develops from the experience of spending time together during the general sessions, social events and recreational opportunities.
- New members are strongly encouraged to present a paper at their first meeting. A "call for papers" will be circulated several months before the conference. Typically, each presenter will speak for about 7-8 minutes, leaving approximately 7 minutes for questions and discussion. Time also is set aside for a "free-for-all" period in which members not already on the program can offer a short talk, present a case, or raise some other topic. The general sessions are very interactive and discussion is strongly encouraged.
- It's a longstanding tradition of the Club for members to tell a joke during the first morning introduction session or at the beginning of their talk. It can be said that some of these jokes fall into the category of "anything goes."
- The American Eye Study Club Foundation was established in 2004 to receive charitable contributions from members and others. The purpose is to further the educational and charitable goals of the AESC. Please consider giving it your tax-deductible financial support.

We welcome you to membership in the American Eye Study Club!