

In auto racing a white flag signals the start of the final lap. As our Indianapolis annual session quickly approaches (October 14<sup>th</sup>-16<sup>th</sup>), the white flag is flying on my term as your president and the “yard of bricks” is just a few more turns around the oval.

The call to start my engine for this race began virtually, amid the pandemic and pre-vaccine. Following a unique start, the subsequent months have continued to provide plenty of “interesting” laps around the track. Through each of the obstacles and the yellow caution flags flying in the air, the entire GLAO leadership team has remained steadfastly focused on serving your needs and representing your concerns. We have worked tirelessly to meet the unprecedented challenges of a global pandemic. Specifically, I want to take a moment to recognize and thank the Annual Session Planning Committee of Chris Crane, Lana Helms, Kelton Stewart, Debbie Nunner, and Karla Dunbar. They were charged with managing the difficult task of planning one of the first in-person orthodontic meetings in nearly 24 months. Despite the significant adversities and continued uncertainty, they constructed a phenomenal program including nationally recognized speakers who will discuss the most current topics (the future of our profession, the new digital workflow, and OSHA training for your team). As health care providers, we all recognize that a threat still exists. It is time, however, for us all to prudently get back on the track. This meeting will undoubtedly help us do so. I strongly encourage each of you to join your friends and colleagues in our conveniently located and welcoming city for a meeting you will not want to miss.

Registration is now open (<https://aom.formstack.com/forms/2021glaoannualsection>). If you and your team members have not yet registered, please do so as soon as possible.

It has been my distinct privilege to serve this Association and our profession. I look forward to the opportunity to thanking each of you in Indianapolis

**“If you have everything under control, you are not moving fast enough”- Mario Andretti**

Respectfully,  
Dr. Anthony M. Puntillo ([dr.p@pandcsmiles.com](mailto:dr.p@pandcsmiles.com))  
2020-2021 GLAO President