

## **Paul B. Brennan**

Paul is from, Kings Mountain, NC, where he lives with his family. An optician for more than 45 years, he currently practices at Sam's Club Optical in Gastonia, as manager and OIC.

He gained his optical education in the US Navy, during the Vietnam Era. First trained as a Navy Corpsman (Medic), Paul received additional (formal) Naval training in ophthalmics and became an optician while still serving. Paul passed his first licensing board exam in 1975. For many years he has licenses in VA, MA, NC, and TN, and has ABO and NCLE certifications as well.

Paul has taught optical courses in central Virginia's certified apprentice program which he created and, after the VA Board had approved, then taught for three years. He has worked in all circumstances in his career, through which he has acquired extensive management and leadership skills.

His work history is extremely varied: extensive optical lab work; private sector with doctors; with both large and small corporations; ownership of a Pearle franchise; and many other self-employed single and multi-store endeavors. These activities combine to give him the unique experience of knowing what opticians experience, no matter where they may be practicing. He has acquired great skill in fitting contacts; low vision aids, and even has the talent of fitting ocular prosthetics.

Paul has had many awards and honors in his career. He is a proud Naval Reserve Officer. He has multiple undergraduate degree's (4) and two masters degrees, all earned with distinction and honors; he is starting a PHD program shortly. He is an accomplished writer and speaker. He has a very strong desire to see to the provision of exemplary vision care for the people of NC and by doing so, support the opticians of the state. He truly believes that NC opticians are the best this nation has to offer, and looks forward to serving for you and with you.

Governor Cooper appointed Mr. Brennan, after the 2017 election, to fulfill an unexpired term that ends in 2019.