

FLORIDA LIONS EYE BANK NEWSIGHT

BASCOM PALMER EYE INSTITUTE • UNIVERSITY OF MIAMI MILLER SCHOOL OF MEDICINE



SUMMER 2012

EDUCATION

▶ Eye Bank Hosts Career Day for Visiting Miami Students

Some kids might be disappointed to spend their summer field trip visiting the Florida Lions Eye Bank rather than Zoo Miami. But not 11-year-old McCarthy Cerisier. “The zoo is so common,” He said after inspecting a sclera, the white of a human eye, in the eye bank. “This is not so common. You get to see a human eye and how it works.”

Most of the other 28 Breakthrough Miami students agreed. They spent a day touring Bascom Palmer Eye Institute and learned about careers open to students who take their schooling seriously, and set their sights high.

Breakthrough Miami is designed to inspire and prepare motivated low-income students to stay on a path to college and offers fun but rigorous educational and mentoring opportunities. Their Career Day field trip to Bascom Palmer was part of a six-week summer institute hosted by some of Miami’s private college preparatory schools.



Jorge Peña, M.D. displays an eye diagram to the visiting Breakthrough Miami students

Jorge A. Peña, M.D., technical director of the eye bank, described the bank’s “safe” as a “huge refrigerator” used to keep human eye tissue chilled, and ready for transplant in all types of sight-saving eye surgeries. Then, in one of the day’s highlights, he led the students to the small eye bank lab on the third floor, and passed around human eyes that have been donated for research.

REVISIT

Our 50th Anniversary events and activities!

50 Years!

GIVING THE GIFT OF SIGHT

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▶ Eye Bank Staff to Attend Leadership Forum

The Florida Lions Eye Bank's executive director, Elizabeth Fout-Caraza and Director of Community and Public Relations Judith Cornille will be in attendance at the 36th annual USA/Canada Lions Leadership Forum in Tampa, FL on September 13-15. The goal of the forum is to develop leaders, motivate and educate attendees, provide an open exchange of ideas and support programs and goals of Lions Clubs International. New ideas presented



there will be used as a springboard for change for the Florida Lions Eye Bank in 2012-2013.

▶ Eye Bank Association in South Florida

The Florida Lions Eye Bank played host to the annual meeting of the nation's eye banks at *Sailing into the Future: Navigating for Success*, the 51st Annual Meeting of the Eye Bank Association of America (EBAA). This year the EBAA came to South Florida with the meeting taking place at the Westin Diplomat in Ft. Lauderdale June 20-23.

The meeting included 300 eye bank executives, hospital development coordinators, ophthalmologists and technicians. The agenda included thought-provok-



ing speakers and sessions, intertwined with three days of fellowship, networking with new peers and vendors, exchanging ideas and establishing program plans for the Florida Lions Eye Bank.

In 2013 the EBAA national meeting will be in Chicago and a Florida Lions Eye Bank professional may be facilitating the technical skills, donor development or quality assurance workshop.

HOW YOU CAN HELP *in our sight-saving work*

- 1** Make certain that you have indicated on your driver's license that you want to be a donor or that you have registered as a donor on www.donatelifeflorida.org.
- 2** Most importantly, share your desire to be a donor with your family. By doing this, you will have joined with us in achieving our mission: *To Give the Gift of Sight.*



Special Appreciation Night Kicks Off 50th Anniversary Year

The Florida Lions Eye Bank fittingly began their historic 50th anniversary with a festive appreciation night for the Lions of South Florida.

Attendees filled the Retter Auditorium as eleven past presidents were on hand to reminisce on the achievements of their year and how the eye bank has changed during

the decades. Medical Director Sander Dubovy and Executive Director Elizabeth Fout Caraza expressed appreciation for the Lions dedication, perseverance and leadership over the years.

Tours of the pathology lab, eye bank offices and Ophthalmic Biomedical Lab were provided and Lions enjoyed reviewing historical displays. The crowd moved to decorated Retter Patio for a paella dinner. A DJ played a variety of popular songs from the eye bank's past 50 years.



Past presidents in attendance included (L-R) John Del Zio, Marshall Ruff, Dr. James Brauss, Bob Dawson, Elizabeth Dawson, Bill Arthur, Ken Shival, Lino de la Hera, Stacey Jones, Juan Tiera and Bill Sweeney



Lions gather at the Retter Patio for fellowship and a paella dinner.



Lions and guests enjoy a tour of the eye bank pathology lab.

Fifty Years of Giving

50TH ANNIVERSARY GALA CELEBRATION

A star was born in 1962. That was the year that the founders of the Bascom Palmer Eye Institute and the Lions Clubs of South Florida partnered to create the Florida Lions Eye Bank. Over the decades it grew and evolved into one of the premier eye banks in the nation and an invaluable service for patients, ophthalmologists, researchers and ophthalmic education.

On March 24, 2012, the Florida Lions Eye Bank celebrated Fifty Years of Giving the Gift of Sight with a an unforgettable gala dinner event at the Weston Hills Country Club. More than 200 friends of the eye bank gathered for a stroll down memory lane: reminiscing and reviewing historical displays and memorabilia from the decades past. Guests were treated to a cocktail party, an elegant dinner, awards and entertainment by the Grammy-nominated singer and songwriter, Karen Taylor Good.

Awards were presented to organizations that have played an important role in the eye bank's rise to prominence. Betty Valdes provided a moving speech about how a cornea transplant from the eye bank saved her mother's life. It was an evening befitting of the half-century of sight-giving service provided by the eye bank.



Former eye bank Executive Director Mary Anne Taylor-Rollins, two-time President Bill Arthur.



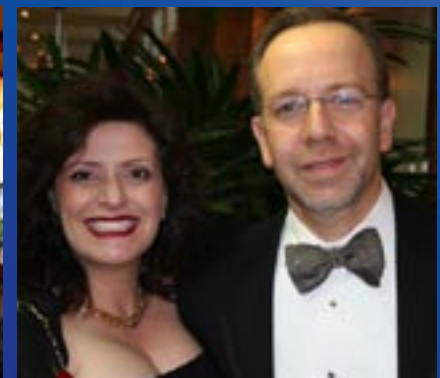
Eye Bank Staff celebrates 50 years



President James Brauss and Executive Director Elizabeth Fout Caraza



Stunning ballroom welcomed dinner guests.



Medical Director Sander Dubovy, M.D. and his wife, Sarah.

ing the Gift of Sight

RATION: AN EVENING TO REMEMBER!



Grammy-nominated singer and songwriter, Karen Taylor Good



Past President Juan Tejera presents a proclamation to President Dr. James Brauss.



Past presidents Marshall Ruff (L) and Stacey Jones (R)



Dr. and Mrs. Jorge Pena, Dr. and Mrs. Jean Marie Parel, Blanca and Guido Montero

*Above: Guests explore memorabilia.
At right, guest speaker Betty Valdes.
Far right, supporters Mickey and
Brenda Harmelin.*



Bonita Springs Hosts 2012 Installation Dinner

President Bud Mansolilli and his Board of Officers and Directors were installed as the 51st Board of the Florida Lions Eye Bank.

The annual installation dinner, award ceremony and silent auction was held in Bonita Springs at the Vasary Country Club. The Ross Carr Award was presented to past president Stacey Jones by past president Bill Arthur and the Jimmy Nelson Award went to the Ft. Lauderdale Club and was accepted by out-going president and club member Dr. James Brauss.

With the Country Club providing an elegant setting, Lions, friends, guests and eye bank staff enjoyed a cocktail reception with live entertainment followed by a delicious buffet-style dinner.

Past President Richard Vidal served as the evening's emcee and his wife, Mari-aelena, assisted with the sale of the raffle tickets.



Dr. James Brauss accepts the Jimmy Nelson Award from Past President William Sweeney



Past president Bill Arthur presents the Ross Carr Award to Stacey Jones.



(L-R) President Bud Mansolilli, George Letakis, Larry Schiff, Carlos Vargas, Colleen Pinkerton, Geoff Wade, Blair Anderson, Bill Arthur and Bob Hilliard.



James Brauss (C) with Past President Lino de la Hera and spouse.



Emcee and past president Richard Vidal and his wife, Mariaelena.

Donations

RECEIVED FROM MAY 1 - JULY 1, 2012

Mr. Roberto Aguilera
Mr. Manuel Arvesu
Banco de Ojos and la
Republica Dominicana
Mrs. Mary Benson
Mrs. Marion Beveridge
Mr. Luis S. Blanco
Mr. Arnold T. Butkus
Estate of Dorothy B. Tua Callahan
Mr. Royal Chernock
Mr. John Choto
Mr. and Mrs. John Cornille
Dr. and Mrs. Thomas A. Cornille
Mr. George Coughlin
Dr. Victor Curtin
Mr. William E. Davis
Mr. Gus De Leon
Mr. Bertus Dorrestyn
Dr. Sander Dubovy
Mr. John Erskine

Mrs. Elena Fernandez
Mrs. Velia Focaracci
Mr. Martin Gelb
Mrs. Evelyn Goodman
Ms. Marie Governale
Mrs. Laura Greenstein
Mrs. Patricia D. Hall
Mr. and Mrs. Michael Harmelin
Estate of Florence Herwitz
Mrs. Elsa H. Jones
Mr. Morton Kalin
Ms. Helen Kastenbaum
Mr. Richard E. Kastner
Mr. Gary Lambie, Sr.
Mrs. Sonia C. Levine
Ms. Sally Lieberman
Mr. William Lillycrop
Mrs. Edith Lopez
Ms. Elaine G. Lowe
Mr. Gene I. Mesh

Mr. and Mrs. Barry Mitchell
Mrs. Jane Monas
Mrs. Ofelia M. Nibot
Mrs. Ydelisa M. Ordaz
Mrs. Evelyn R. Owens
Mrs. Maria Phillips
Ms. Irene O. Reyes
Mrs. Leonor Rodriguez
Dr. Dario F. Savino
Mr. Gordon P. Schopfer
Ms. Cleo Sheesley
Mrs. Ruth M. Sheldon
Ms. Leona Spector
Ms. Charlotte Stern
Mrs. Pamela Streete
Estate of Walter Thomas Smith
Ms. Jeneva Visui
Mrs. Adek Wenger
Mr. Vincent E. Wolf
Mr. Paul A. Ziarnowski

SPONSORS OF OUR 50TH GALA CELEBRATION

Florida Optometry Eye Health Fund
Bonita Springs Lions Club
Dr. and Mrs. Jean Cornille
The Lubitz Financial Group
Fort Lauderdale Lions Club
Braverman Eye Center
Rand Eye Institute
Moria, Inc.
Miami Buena Vista Biltmore Lions Club
Lauderdale by the Sea Lions Club
Millennium Laser Eye Centers
University Of Miami Tissue Bank
Bascom Palmer Eye Institute
Life Alliance Organ Recovery Agency
South Florida Maritime Lions Club
Island Center Eye Care - Dr. Brauss
Marco Island Lions Club
William B. and Ann Sweeney
Aventura NMB Lions Club
Eduardo Alfonso, MD

Marshall Ruff
Dr. and Mrs. James Brauss
Ms. Elizabeth Fout Caraza
Retina Vitreous Consultants LLP
Florida Lions Foundation for the Blind
Naples Nites Lions Club
Aran Eye Associates
The Surgery Center of Coral Gables
Lions Club of Boynton Beach
Lancaster and Reed
Jonathan F. Wise, MD
Ms. Angela T. Fields
Mr. Rafael A. Gomez
Ms. Corene Johnson
Mr. Sheldon B. Minnich
Ms. Eileen D. Wozneski
Ms. Rose Marie Hightower
Mr. Arnold J. Saffer
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MAKING A DIFFERENCE!

Lions Team With Memorial Regional Hospital to Collect Eye Glasses for Donation

A collaborative effort between the Dania Lions Club and President Jim Silvernale and Memorial Regional Hospital in Hollywood will result in a donation of used eye glasses to the Florida Lions Eye Bank.

Ingrid Reyes, a Central Supply Supervisor at Memorial Regional Hospital and the President of the Employee Activities Committee (EAC), is enthusiastic about leading the new project at the hospital. “We will begin here and hopefully, extend the drive to other sites in the Memorial Healthcare System.”

Lions Club International and the World Health Organization estimate there are 153 million people worldwide with uncorrected refractive errors including near-sightedness, far-sightedness and astigmatism – problems that can be quickly diagnosed and easily treated. Unfortunately, many people cannot afford eyeglasses. Many do not know they can receive glasses through the Lions organization. Eyeglass collection drives, like at Memorial Regional, help supply those eye glasses to

select Lions Clubs.

“The need is great and we want to help,” Ingrid added. Thanks to the efforts of the EAC at Memorial, its employees and visitors and the Lions, many more people will have the gift of sight restored.



(L-R) Members of the Employee Activities Committee (EAC) include Becky McCarthy of Health Information Management and EAC Vice President, Torsha Durham of Pharmacy and EAC Media Director, Ingrid Reyes of Central Supply and EAC President, Ron Henderson of Clinical Engineering and EAC Treasurer.