

LIONS VISION

NEWSLETTER FOR MEMBERS OF MULTIPLE DISTRICT 22 LIONS, LIONSESS AND LEO CLUBS Fall 2011

“Remind Me”

By PDG John J. Shwed, Development Committee Chairman

Any country music fans out there! Right now one of the top songs is “Remind Me,” a duet performed by Brad Paisley and Carrie Underwood. The singers lament about, “How it used to be”- “How in their younger years there was passion in their romance” - “A time when the world stood still and they were oblivious to the events around them.”

Well, we the members of the MD-22 Lions Family have a chance to remember and to rekindle the spark of passion that ignited a great movement 20 years ago. Twenty years ago the Lions of MD-22 participated in a dedication ceremony for the Lions Vision Center at Johns Hopkins Wilmer Eye Institute. It was a grand affair and an exciting celebration. I had the pleasure of representing the Delaware Lions as the District Governor for District 22-D.

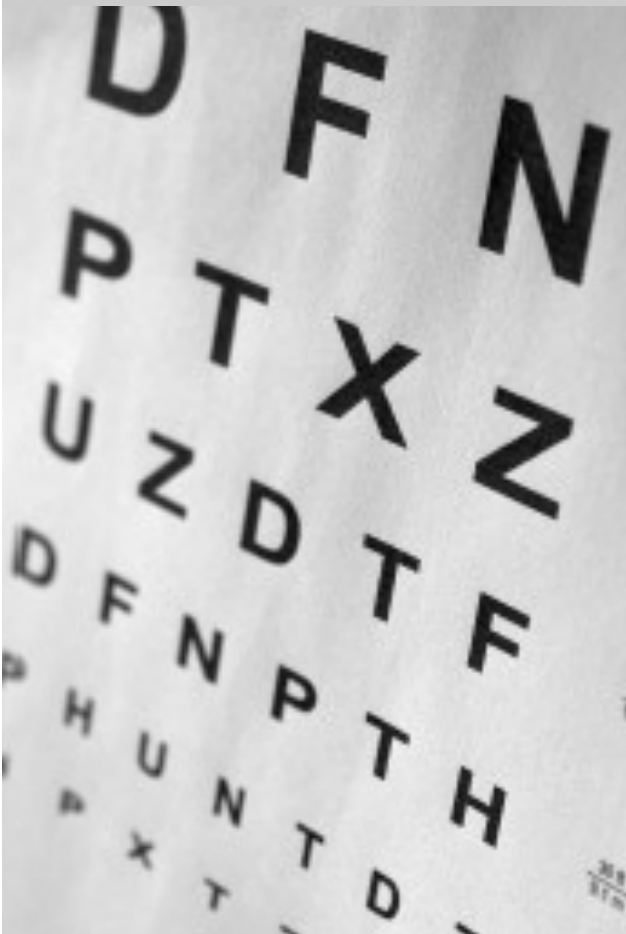
In those 20 years we Lions have much to be proud of. Hundreds of patients with low vision have received help from the staff at the Lions Vision Center enabling them to lead more meaningful lives. Several patients were able to do things like see their grandchildren’s faces clearly for the first time; others learned they could drive a car when they thought that simple pleasure and convenience was beyond the realm of possibility.

The Lions reach extended world-wide as the experts at the Lions Vision Center educated other eye care professionals in low vision technology and rehabilitative practices. The staff promoted awareness of the problem of low vision which impacts 5 million people in the United States to various governmental organizations. Research partnerships were established with the Veterans Administration and auto manufacturers. The MD-22 Lions Family established a \$4 million Endowment Fund to support the operation of the Lions Vision Center in perpetuity. Two new donor recognition awards were established; the Arnall Patz Fellowship, named for our guiding light, Dr. Arnall Patz, and the Knights of the Blind Pyramid, symbolizing the Lions commitment to Helen Keller’s challenge.

To me this is an extraordinary list of accomplishments; and there are more, too numerous to mention here. I hope when you read this, you agree. Please join me in celebrating these accomplishments at the November 19, 2011 Lions Day at Johns Hopkins. During the program we will also be recognizing the Baltimore Host Lions Club for achieving 90 years of service. Talk about memories and change....I’m sure those Lions have some real stories to tell! See you at the celebration!

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Chairman's Message

By PCC John Lawrence, Chairman
LIONS VISION RESEARCH FOUNDATION

Doing a World of Good, Right Here at Home

At the July 2011 LVRF Board of Trustees Meeting, we were fortunate to have a presentation from Dr. Morton F. Goldberg, Emeritus Chairman of the Wilmer Eye Institute. He talked about the three missions of the Institute: 1) Provide the Best Possible Care for our Patients –irrespective of their ability to pay, 2) Discover New Cures for Eye Disease, and 3) Educate the young doctors and scientists that will lead our field into the future. Our Multiple District 22 Lions Vision Research Foundation is contributing to each of these missions.



Dr. Morton Goldberg

As you know, the Lions Vision Center, which we support, has both a research and clinical side. On the clinical side, for the past three years, your Foundation has sponsored a Clinical Vision Rehabilitation Fellow. This year, we are fortunate to have Dr. Tiffany Chan fill that position. You can find an article in this newsletter introducing her. Dr. Chan will be working four days each week with patients and one day on a research project. Thanks to this position, the waiting time for new patients at the Lions Low Vision Center has been reduced from about 8 weeks to only a few days. This shows the impact of your Foundation on the lives of citizens within our communities.

On the research side, our Foundation completed

the \$4,000,000 Endowment Fund in 2007. The proceeds from the endowment provide the funds for the researchers at the Lions Low Vision Center to investigate new ideas for grants once their old projects have been completed. This allows for continuity of the Center's researchers between grants. Several of their projects have been discussed in prior editions of this newsletter. Perhaps one of the most exciting at the present time is putting a grid of photo-sensors on the retina of blind patients, allowing at least some vision to be restored.

One of the challenges in the field of low vision is educating both the public and the eye care professionals about the capabilities and results of the use of low vision specialists and equipment to help patients better use their remaining vision. To that end, we have teamed with the Wilmer Eye Institute, the National Federation of the Blind, and the John Hopkins Bloomberg School of Public Health to use a grant from the Lions Club International Foundation to create and distribute educational DVD's, one on blindness and low vision, and one on how we as Lions can assist people with low vision. These DVD's have been distributed to each club in MD-22. This material is to be used both for Lions, but also to help educate members in your communities.

How can we help individually in these efforts? First, come with others from your club to the LVRF Dinners being given in District 22-B on 29 October and District 22-W on 29 October and 5 November. Next, support Aim for Sight on 22 October. Registration and sponsorship forms are printed in this newsletter. Buy some raffle tickets for the Trunk of Treasures, also noted in the newsletter. This trunk is a 19th century trunk restored by Lion Ralph Young in 22-B, and filled with all sorts of goodies, including a signed copy of Tom Clancy's latest novel and a hand-made afghan by PDG Susan Timmons of 22W.

Finally, come to the rally on 19 November celebrating the 20th anniversary of the beginning of the Lions Low Vision Center. This is a great opportunity to see the new Wilmer building, hear from the Wilmer professional staff and their patients about the work being done there, and get lunch in the process. Past Chairman PCC Ken Watson has a saying: "Wilmer – where miracles happen every day." We help play a part in these miracles. The Lions Vision Research Foundation is YOUR Foundation. Come and be a part of it.

Former Lions Vision Center Researcher Honored at Annual Low Vision Meeting in St. Louis

Professor Gary Rubin, who was a member of the Lions Vision Center faculty from 1986 through 1999 was honored with the Envision Excellence in Research Award at the annual Envision Low Vision Conference held in St. Louis, Sept. 21-24. Professor Rubin gave the keynote address at the conference, reviewing more than 25 years of contributions to low vision research. Dr. Bob Massof, Director of the Lions Vision Center introduced Professor Rubin, which gave him the unique opportunity to highlight Professor Rubin's career at Wilmer and call attention to his many contributions while working at the Lions Vision Center. Gary Rubin advanced through the academic ranks at Johns Hopkins and then was lured to London with an appointment as the Helen Keller Professor at the University College, London Institute of Ophthalmology. He now serves as the Deputy Director of the Institute. Another Lions Vision Center alumnus at the Institute of Ophthalmology is Professor Frederick Fitzke.



Dr. Robert Massof and Dr. Gary Rubin

The Lions Vision Center was well-represented on the program of the Envision conference. Dr. Judy Goldstein organized and moderated a research symposium on clinical low vision research, at which she gave two presentations. Research presentations also were given by Dr. Pradeep Ramulu and Dr. Ava Bittner. Professional education courses were presented at the conference by Drs. Lexi Malken, Pradeep Ramulu, Lori Grover, and Jim Deremeik. Other Lions Vision Center alumni on the program were Dr. Ron Schuchard (now at

Stanford University), Dr. Shirin Hassan (now at Indiana University), and Dr. William Park (now heading a low vision center in Wichita Kansas). Dr. Massof was on the program committee and moderated two research sessions at the conference. The conference will be held again in St. Louis next year and then moves to Minneapolis the year after that. The Envision Conference is unique because it brings together many different clinical and research disciplines to focus the entire time on the subject of low vision.

Do You Have Macular Degeneration?

Can you help?

A research study is being conducted and volunteers are needed now.

Purpose:

Testing a new vision chart to monitor vision at home once a week.

Where:

The new vision chart is used in your home.

Who:

Wilmer Eye Institute at Johns Hopkins University.

What:

If you join, this will involve two visits to your eye doctor in one year and you may be asked to test your own vision on a weekly basis at home.

Reward:

A pair of Cocoons Sunshields to go over any eye-glasses.

For more information: Please call Principal Investigator, Dr. Gislin Dagnelie, at 410-614-4822

Or

Co-Investigator, Dr. Sheryl Torr-Brown at 850-531-8373

ClinicalTrials.gov # NCT01337414

JHM IRB protocol #_00016895

Please pass information about this research study to anyone you know who has the dry form of age-related macular degeneration.

MD-22 Lions Research & Vision Rehabilitation Center Welcomes Dr. Tiffany Chan

On July 1, 2011, the Lions Vision Rehabilitation Center welcomed Dr. Tiffany Chan as the 2011-2012 Clinical Vision Rehabilitation Fellow. Tiffany was chosen after a very competitive selection process and begins her year at The Wilmer Eye Institute serving individuals with vision impairment at the East Baltimore campus of the Johns Hopkins Hospital.

Tiffany Chan was born and raised in Grass Valley, CA. She received a B.S. in psychology with an emphasis in biology at the University of California, Davis. She followed in her parents' footsteps and received her Doctor of Optometry degree from the University of California, Berkeley School of Optometry where she excelled academically and clinically with honors. After her optometric schooling, she was accepted to the residency training program at Northport Veterans Affairs Medical Center in Northport, NY, which specialized in primary care, low vision and vision therapy and rehabilitation. Due to her strong interest in geriatric medicine, Tiffany elected to continue her training by applying for the Lions Vision Rehabilitation Fellowship at Johns Hopkins.



In addition to her impressive academic career, Dr. Chan was a competitive gymnast. She was honored as an Academic and Athletic All-American at the University of California, Davis. She completed her 19 year gymnastic career by performing as a "background elite gymnast" in the 2005 Disney movie *Stick It*.

Dr. Chan is thrilled to be chosen for the Lions Low Vision Fellowship at the Wilmer Eye Institute and is grateful to the Lions for their funding of the position. She feels extremely fortunate to work with such a knowledgeable and dedicated team of doctors and therapists and is already enjoying the intensive training program at Hopkins.

We are excited to have Dr. Chan join our team and welcome her to our Lions/Wilmer family!

What is Low Vision?

By Tiffany Chan, OD

Low Vision refers to vision impairment that cannot be corrected with conventional eyeglasses, contact lenses, medication or surgery. In the United States this loss of vision is most often caused by age-related eye conditions such as macular degeneration, glaucoma and diabetic eye disease. These conditions may lead to a reduction in visual acuity (or sharpness), a loss of central or side vision and/or reduction in contrast sensitivity. As a result, reduced vision can negatively affect a person's ability to perform their everyday activities, such as reading, watching television and driving.

What is Low Vision Rehabilitation?

Vision rehabilitation services aim to optimize the patients' remaining sight. Low Vision specialists are not able to cure the causes of the vision loss, but instead, they help the patient use his or her remaining vision to its fullest potential. After careful and thorough examination, the physician, therapist, and patient work together to identify daily living concerns and develop an individual rehabilitation plan to improve the patient's ability to function and perform the activities their reduced vision has made difficult.

Who can benefit from Low Vision services?

Anyone, from children to seniors, who feels their level of vision has negatively impacted their daily functioning can benefit from Low Vision services. Depending on the level of vision loss and the goals identified by the patient and rehabilitation team, services can range from the prescribing of spectacles or magnifiers to reading machines. Much of the success of rehabilitation depends on the patient and their openness to change as rehabilitation often requires altering habits. Vision rehabilitation requires a team approach, and the patient is considered the star player.

LIONS VISION RESEARCH FOUNDATION

TRUNK OF TREASURES

Latest Tom Clancy Novel
 "Dead or Alive"
 Autographed By Author

TRUNK
 Beautifully Restored by
 Lion Ralph Young

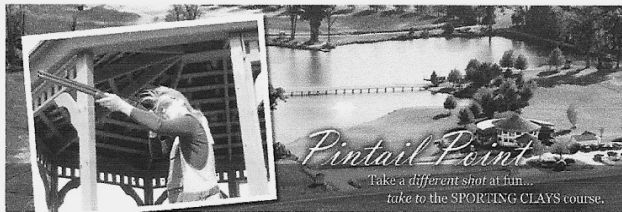


Afghan—Hand Made by
 PDG Susan Timmons

To register for the Aim for Sight activity, or purchase tickets for the Truck of Treasures, make check payable to LVRF Aim for Sight and mail to:
 Lion Dal Mann, PDG
 22944 Lyn Oaks Drive
 Preston, MD 21655
 You may cut out the ticket on the cover page, make copies as needed, and mail them in.



Lions Vision Research Foundation Aim for Sight Sporting Clay Shoot Saturday, October 22nd, 2011



511 Pintail Point Farm Lane, Queenstown, MD 21658



2555 Mayberry RD, Westminster, MD 21158

REGISTRATION - \$65 per Shooter or \$240 per Team

Shooters Name	Phone	Team Name	Amount	Location MR/PP*
1				
2				
3				
4				
Total				

Note: * Location MR-Mayberry Road/PP-Pintail Point

Volunteer Optometric Services to Humanity (VOSH)

By Tiffany Chan, OD

As a student at the University of California, Berkeley School of Optometry I was fortunate to be a part of three volunteer trips with an organization called Volunteer Optometric Services to Humanity (VOSH). The goal of VOSH is to provide optometric services to underserved areas. Volunteers from all over the country provide much needed eye care to over 100,000 patients annually.

During my trips, we provided basic screening eye exams which included measuring vision, determining eyeglass prescriptions using objective and subjective methods of measurements, ocular health examination and dispensing glasses. Because we were working in underserved areas, we had to bring all examination equipment and glasses with us. Almost all of the eyeglasses provided were collected through donations, including those from Lions Clubs. We tried our best to match a person's prescription to the donated glasses, which you can probably imagine is a very difficult feat. The challenge lies in the fact that eyes are unique. If you have ever tried on your friend's or spouse's glasses, you know they rarely fit or give you good vision. For each trip, we aimed to travel with at least two to three times as many eyeglasses as the number of patients we planned to examine.

My first trip was during my first year of optometry school. We traveled to the island of Palau (about 500 miles east of the Philippines). It took the group approximately 24 hours to travel from California, stopping in Hawaii and Guam along the way. We set up our clinic at a local school. Over the course of a week, we were able to provide care to approximately 1,250 people. Many of our patients had never experienced an eye exam before, because the closest clinic was in Guam, an hour plane ride away. In our "off time" we were able to enjoy the island, which included snorkeling and scuba diving. Swimming amongst the ocean-life was incredible! The tropical fish were so vibrant and abundant.

My next trip took us to Panama during the summer between my second and third years of school. The group was smaller, and the length of the trip was much shorter. We were able to help approximately 600 people over three days of clinic. Some patients walked for hours to get to our clinic site. The most difficult part of this trip was turning people away because we did not have the space or manpower to examine everyone. During this trip we visited the Panama Canal and went white water rafting.

My last trip was during the summer between my third and fourth years of optometry school. We traveled to Ecuador. This was the largest volunteer group I traveled with, and we were able to see approximately 1,400 people over three days of clinic. Outside of the clinic we went horseback riding through the Andes, white water rafting and zip-lining over the Cloud Forest.

I believe the experiences have made me a better doctor. I was lucky to have encountered eye diseases first-hand that are normally only seen during class lectures and in books. I also feel we made a positive impact on people's quality of life. The ability to provide clear vision with glasses is often underappreciated in the U.S. because it is part of normal health care.

Through these volunteer trips, I was able to appreciate the "miracle" of optics when we were able to restore vision with eyeglasses; such as helping grandparents see their grandchildren for the first time, or providing sight to children who never knew what it meant to see clearly. I feel so lucky to be a part of such a wonderful cause. Providing humanitarian eye care was one of the most deeply rewarding experiences of my optometric education.

Important Information

- You may make a pledge toward an Arnall Patz Fellowship and designate the funds toward the Dr. Patz endowed professorship.

The fellowships are \$2,500 that may be spread over a five year period. **Would you or your club consider bringing a pledge to the Rally on November 19?** If so, make check payable to **Wilmer Eye Institute, & note Lions Patz Professorship** in the memo.

On the other hand, you may want the funds to go into the LVRF operating fund. If so, make the check out to **LVRF**.

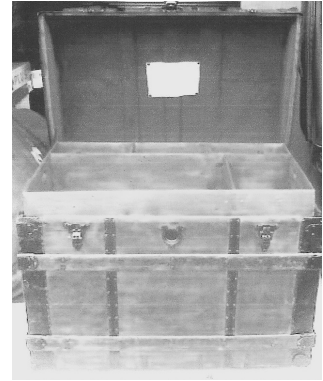
- Check out the new and improved Lions Vision Research Foundation Web site at www.lionsvision.org

Buy a Ticket for the Trunk of Treasures

There are dozens of treasures in this beautifully restored trunk. You may win it all with your purchase of a \$2 ticket (3 for \$5).

Make copies of the ticket below, fill in your name and the other information and mail to Lion Dalton Mann, PDG. 22944 Lyn Oaks Drive, Preston, MD 21655.

The drawing will be on October 22 at the Aim for Sight Sporting Clay Shoot being held concurrently in Queenstown and Westminster, Maryland. You can win it if you're in it!



Name _____	Lions Vision Research Foundation
Address _____	TRUNK OF TREASURES
_____	<i>Grand Drawing at</i>
Phone No. _____	<i>Aim For Sight Sporting Clays</i>
E-mail _____	SATURDAY, OCTOBER 22, 2011
No 00750	No 00750
	Donation: \$2.00 Each or 3 For \$5.00



The Multiple District 22
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