

FLORIDA LIONS EYE BANK

NEWSIGHT

BASCOM PALMER EYE INSTITUTE
UNIVERSITY OF MIAMI MILLER SCHOOL OF MEDICINE

SUMMER 2015



FLORIDA LIONS
EYE BANK

Since 1962

Restoring The Beauty of Sight

A Major Project of the Lions of Florida

VICTOR T. CURTIN CHAIR IN OPHTHALMOLOGY

Dr. Sander Dubovy Receives Curtin Chair



Turn to page 3 for more photos

Florida Lions Eye Bank Medical Director Sander R. Dubovy, M.D. received the endowed Victor T. Curtin Chair in Ophthalmology at a ceremony earlier this year. The Curtin Chair is named for the founder of the eye bank and made possible by the generous donations of Florida Lions clubs. Dr. Curtin was also the inaugural holder of the Chair, which supports experimental ophthalmic pathology.

Eye Bank Medical Director Dr. Sander Dubovy (C) watches as University of Miami Miller School of Medicine Dean Pascal Goldschmidt, M.D. (L) and Chairman of Bascom Palmer Eye Institute Eduardo Alfonso, M.D. pull the drape from the symbolic Victor T. Curtin Chair of Ophthalmology.

SOCIAL MEDIA

Keep in Touch With FLEB

Join us on Facebook and all other social media platforms to stay up to date with the Florida Lions Eye Bank, and receive information, literature and ask questions about how we can help you with your eye health or sight restoration. An example of our community outreach through social media is the two minute video created for Eye Donor Awareness Month that thanks the thousands who have given the gift of restored sight. Click on the YouTube button on the eye bank website (fleb.org) to view the video and other clips about the eye bank.

Also, those who prefer to receive this newsletter and other information and messages via email, can subscribe to our email mailing list.

VISIT US TODAY: www.fleb.org



HONORING EYE DONORS

Eye Bank Takes Donors Out To the Ball Game

On the sunny Saturday morning of May 16 the Florida Lions Eye Bank launched its first annual Eye Donor Family Day. Nearly 200 donor family members and Eye Bank supporters attended this event at the Miami Marlins Stadium Lexus Legends Club.

The event honored the families of the 902 eye donors who helped the Florida Lions Eye Bank restore the beauty of sight in 2014. The donors and their families were recognized for their

enormous generosity and contribution to our community. Thanks to their gift, over 1,000 Floridians received a cornea transplant or other surgical tissue last year!

The special day included food, beverages, a scavenger hunt, raffles and a special on-field recognition from the Florida Marlins. After the ceremony the families, friends and staff settled in to enjoy the game against the Atlanta Braves.



Donor family members join Executive Director Elizabeth Fout Caraza and Billy the Marlin on the field at Marlins Park for Eye Donor Family Day.



Donor family members test their skills while playing the Marlins Park Scavenger Hunt.

LETTERS

Cornea Recipient Thanks Donor Family

The Florida Lions Eye Bank loves to receive feedback from recipients, donor families, friends and supporters. We were happy to hear from a South Florida cornea recipient whose procedure resulted in an excellent outcome and inspired her to reach out and thank the donor family. Please contact us through our website, Facebook page, email or give us call. We want to hear from you!

www.fleb.org • (305) 326-6359

Dear Donor Family,

On June 18, 2015, I had a cornea graft implanted in my right eye. The surgical procedure was performed by Dr. Matthew J. Weiss, cornea specialist at the Eye Associates of Boca Raton, FL. My vision had diminished due to an inherited eye disease of the cornea called Fuchs Dystrophy. Your donor family is now a part of me. My cornea is slowly healing since the surgery, and my vision improving. Thank you for your generous gift of sight, because of your love and sacrifice. You will always be remembered in my daily prayers. God bless you!

Dr. Sander Dubovy Fits Perfect in Curtin Chair

In front of friends, family, colleagues, University of Miami administrators and community leaders, FLEB Medical Director Dr. Sander Dubovy received the Victor T. Curtin Chair in Ophthalmology, named for the eye bank's founder. Dr. Dubovy is a world-renowned

ophthalmic educator and researcher. He is one of only a few doctors to be board-certified in both Ophthalmology and Anatomic Pathology. The presentation ceremony included remarks from dignitaries, comments from Dr. Dubovy and a reception.



Dr. Sander Dubovy takes a seat in the chair in front of (L-R) Bascom Palmer Chairman Eduardo Alfonso, M.D. Professor Emeritus Victor T. Curtin, M.D. and Dean of the Medical School Pascal Goldschmidt, M.D.



Lions standing tall behind Dr. Dubovy (L-R) George Letakis, FLEB Executive Director Elizabeth Fout Caraza, Bill Arthur, Bob and Elizabeth Dawson, Ken Engstrom, Bob Hilliard and Juan Tejera.

Mary Lou and Victor Curtin with Cathy Corser.



(L-R) Former FLEB Executive Director Mary Anne Rollins, Dr. Dubovy and Elizabeth Fout Caraza.



Sarah and Sander Dubovy with their children.

COMMUNITY OUTREACH



Cover Story Aimed at Latino Population

Florida Lions Eye Bank Executive Director Elizabeth Fout-Caraza was featured on the cover of the May 2015 issue of the acclaimed Latino publication *Negocios/Ejecutiva*. In this article, Elizabeth details the important mission of the Eye Bank and its daily operations, and openly discusses the strategy to reach and support the Latino population in South Florida and beyond.

- To read in Spanish visit: www.fleb.org/documents/EFC_EA.pdf
- To read in English visit: www.fleb.org/documents/EFC_Article.pdf

2015-16 Board of Directors Installation Dinner

Annual Gathering Honors the Leadership

The 2015 Florida Lions Eye Bank Installation Dinner reaffirmed the organization's mission to restore the beauty of sight. In-coming President Blair Anderson and his energized 2015-16 Board of Officers and Directors were sworn in by Past President Bill Sweeney and pledged to pursue the goals of the coming year.

The evening included *A Year in Review* from Medical Director Sander R. Dubovy, M.D. and comments and appreciation from immediate Past President Bob Hilliard. Annual awards included the Ross Carr award presented to 2013-14 President Colleen Pinkerton. The Jimmy Nelson award for outstanding club went to the Miami Lakes Lions Club. The dinner also included a reception, silent auction fund-raiser, entertainment and dancing.



(L-R) 2015-16 President Blair Anderson with Immediate Past President Bob Hilliard.



Entertainment from singer and Lion Dorothy Letakis.



(L-R) Past President Bill Sweeney with Past President James Brauss, OD and wife, Sandra.



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



FLEB Executive Assistant Elina Hackworth (in back), her daughter Cassandra (L) and Laboratory Supervisor Concetta Triglia.



Dr. Shalesh Kaushal and Vice President Norma Callahan.



Past President Colleen Pinkerton accepts the Ross Carr award from Past President Bill Arthur.

and Dedication of Lions



(L-R) Deborah and Ken Engstrom, Past President Stacey Jones and wife, Mary.



(L-R) FLEB Executive Director Elizabeth Fout-Caraza, Past President Ken Shivel and accepting the Jimmy Nelson Award is Colleen Pinkerton on behalf of the Miami Lakes Lions Club.



(L-R) Phil Herzberg with Ana and Jorge Padilla from Lubitz Financial Group



Members of the 2015-16 Board include (L-R) Immediate Past President Bob Hilliard, Vice President 35-O Norma Callahan, Vice President 35-I Bill Arthur, Director Geoff Wade, Director Dr. Shalesh Kaushal, Director Jim Klug, President Blair Anderson, Director David Skillin, Secretary Ken Engstrom, Treasurer Larry Schiff, Director Antonio Burgos and Vice President 35-N George Letakis.

Donations

OCTOBER 1, 2014 - JUNE 30, 2015

General

Ms. Maria C. Abellon
Mrs. Mildred Agronow
Mr. Roberto Aguilera
Mrs. Dolores B. Allen
Amazon Smile Foundation
Mr. Peter Amrein
Mrs. Susan Andrews
John E. and Nellie J. Bastien
Memorial Foundation
Mrs. Dorothy Bernstein
Mr. David L. Blalock
Mrs. Sandra Borok
Ms. Dorothy R. Bradley
The Shepard Broad Foundation, Inc.
Ms. Florence Brozen
Mr. Arnold T. Butkus
Mr. Olin D. Button
Mrs. Linda Caron
Mr. John Choto
Mr. Robert D. Christian
Mrs. Shirley Christian
Mrs. Caridad Cordero
Ms. Judy Cornille
Mr. George Coughlin
Mr. Federico Couso
Mr. William E. Davis
Ms. Yolanda De Venanzi
Mrs. Phyllis Delizza
Sander Dubovy, M.D.
Mr. John Erskine
Ms. Carol Fenno
Mrs. Angela Fields
Mrs. Velia Focaracci
Richard Forster, M.D.

Dr. Kenneth F. Golden
Mr. Matias Gomez
Elisa O. Gonzalez
Dr. Patricio Grayeb
Ms. Annie Gresham
Ms. Elina Hackworth
Mr. and Mrs. Michael Harmelin
Mrs. Margaret Hinely
Mrs. Mildred Horowitz
Mr. Celestino Irizarry
Mrs. Marilyn Jacobs
Ms. M. Ellen Jensen
Ms. Coralia S. Jimenez
Ms. Helen Kastenbaum
Mrs. and Mr. Harriet F. Katz
Raananah Katz, M.D.
Shalesh Kaushal, M.D.
Mr. D. H. Komito
Ms. Nancy Kranz
Mr. Luke Leitz
Mrs. Edith Lopez
Mrs. Linda Lubitz-Boone
Mr. William F. Lyons
Ms. Melene McMannen
Ms. Barbara McNinney
Mr. Timothy T. McQuade
Mrs. Gladys Miguel
Mr. Chester Miller
Mr. Irwin A. Moore
Mrs. Roslyn Morris
Mrs. Lillian R. Murray
Mrs. Ofelia M. Nibot
The Calvin and Flavia Oak
Foundation, Inc.

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Mrs. Caroline S. Pfeiffer
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Renaissance Charitable
Foundation, Inc.
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Mrs. Evelyn Schmid
Ms. Hilda Seitlin
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Mrs. Jamela Shaffee
Mrs. Bea Sherman
Mrs. Gail Simmons
Mr. Sam Snyder
Mrs. Elaine Solas
Southern Dames of America
of Ft. Myers
Ms. Leona Spector
Ms. Betty Lou Steen-Clarke
Mr. Robert Sutton
Mr. William Thode
Ms. Mercedes N. Vazquez
Mrs. Alba P. Vecino
Mr. Antonio Vitiello
Ms. Hazel Wallace
Mr. Paul R. Walshin
Ms. Jerri Wuensch
Mr. Paul A. Ziarnowski
Mr. Leon Zwick

Donations

Lions Clubs

Aventura North Miami Beach Lions Club
Belle Glade Lions Club
Boca Raton Lions Club
Bradenton Lions Club
Coral Springs Downtown Lions Club
Coral Way Colombian Lions Club
Dania Lions Club
Delray Beach Lions Club
Fort Pierce Lions Club
Ft. Lauderdale Lions Club
Hialeah Pan American Lions Club
Hollywood Colombian American Lions Club
Key Biscayne Lions Club
Key Largo Lions Club
Lake Wales Lions Club
Lake Worth Lions Club
Marco Island Lions Club
Miami Buena Vista-Biltmore Lions Club
Miami Colombian Lions Club
Miami Dade Interamerican Lions Club
Miami Doral Lions Club
Miami Five Stars Lions Club

Miami Interamerican Ecuador Lions Club
Miami Lakes Lions Club
Miami Lautaro Lions Club
Miami Lions Club
Miami Managua Lions Club
Miami Springs Lions Club
Naples Nites Lions Club
North Fort Myers Noon
North Port Lions Club
Oviedo Winter Springs Lions Club
Palm Bay Happy Lions Club
Port St. Lucie West Lions Club
Safety Harbor Lions Foundation
Sebastian Lions Club
Sopchoppy Lions Club
South Florida Asian-American Lions Club
South Florida Maritime Lions Club
The Lake Sumter Lions Charities
West Miami Sunshine Lions Club
West Palm Beach Lions Club
Wildwood Sumter County Lions Club
Zephyrhills Lions Club

Leave a Legacy: Bequests

We encourage our friends and supporters to name the Florida Lions Eye Bank as an organization that will receive a portion of your estate upon your passing.

We will use your generous gift to help purchase equipment critical in testing and processing ocular tissue. Your gift will also continue to grow through our fund. **Contact Executive Director Elizabeth Fout-Caraza for more information.**

Making a Donation On-line Has Never Been Easier - Or Safer

The Florida Lions Eye Bank encourages donors to use our new on-line system to easily and safely show your support of our important mission. Go to fleb.org and click on "Donate Funds" in either English or Spanish. In minutes, you can make a donation with any major credit card through the USA E-pay system, which is fully compliant with all on-line safety standards. **Go to www.fleb.org today!**

EVENTS

Lions Receive Thanks at Spring Open House

It has become a spring tradition. Lions from throughout South Florida gather at the eye bank for tours, fellowship, a paella dinner and to receive a huge “thank you” for their dedicated support and leadership.

The evening began with presentations and updates in the Bascom Palmer Eye Institute auditorium from Medical Director Sander Dubovy, M.D. and Executive Director Elizabeth Fout Caraza.

The group then separated into groups for informative tours of the eye bank offices and facilities, the ophthalmic pathology lab and the Ophthalmic Biomedical Laboratory.

The groups met back at the Retter Patio for fellowship, music and a festive paella dinner. Attendees left with information packets and a better understanding of how their support assists in making the beauty of restored sight a reality.

