

Celebrating 30 Years of Eye Banking



Looking Forward

Gary Hottel,
Chairman of LEBO

Lions
Eye Bank
of Oregon



March is National Eye Donor Month

Every year since 1983, Congress has proclaimed March as National Eye Donor Month in order to raise awareness of the need to donate eyes. During this month eye banks all across the United States will hold ceremonies in observance of National Eye Donor Month.

It is during March that the Lions Eye Bank of Oregon presents its "Visionary Awards" to honor those individuals or organizations that go the extra mile to help out with eye banking.

This year's award recipients are:

1. Mike Terwilliger, Volunteer Enucleator/Funeral Director from the Twin Oaks Funeral Home in Albany. Mike has performed more enucleations for the Eye Bank than any other volunteer.
2. The Oregon State Police who, in 2005, implemented a new program to report all scene deaths to the Eye Bank, making it possible to offer the option of eye and tissue donation to families whose loved ones die outside of the hospital setting.
3. Karen Gunson, M.D., the Oregon State Medical Examiner who was instrumental in helping to modify Oregon's Uniform Anatomical Gift Act to encourage the state's medical examiners to cooperate in the identification and release for donation of potential eye and tissue donors.
4. John Wilkins, M.D., Volunteer Medical Director for the Eye Bank. Dr. Wilkins continually gives the Eye Bank the benefit of his knowledge of infectious diseases, assisting in the identification of tissue for transplant versus tissue for research.
5. Linda Thomson, Ophthalmology Librarian at Devers Eye Institute. Linda assists the Eye Bank personnel by performing literature searches to identify relevant information regarding the cornea and external diseases as well as historical information to assist in the validation and verification of Eye Bank procedures for FDA compliance.

Visionary Awardees are selected by the staff of the Lions Eye Bank of Oregon. This award differs from the Eye Bank's "Bev Thoman Award", presented annually to a Lion who has gone beyond the call of duty in service to the Eye Bank.

Barbara Crow
Executive Director
Lions Eye Bank of Oregon

As the Eye Bank observes National Eye Donor Month, we all take time to once again thank our greatest supporters - our Volunteer Couriers.

When Donor Coordinator Manager, Kevin Sealy, arrived from Iowa to take on his new position with the Lions Eye Bank of Oregon, he was "blown away by this amazing program". No other Eye Bank has a program as successful as the one we enjoy.

So, if you hear applause and bells ringing, you will know we are once again celebrating our "amazing" Volunteer Couriers.

Thank You, Thank You!

Lions Eye Bank of Oregon presents the 1st Annual Candlelight Vigil of Hope, Remembrance and Celebration

On July 26, 2006 the Lions Eye Bank of Oregon and Community Tissue Services of Portland will hold the first annual Candlelight Vigil of Hope, Remembrance and Celebration. The ceremony will provide HOPE for those in need of a transplant; REMEMBRANCE for the heroes of donation: the donors and their families; and CELEBRATION for all transplant recipients.

Last year in Oregon and SW Washington over 1,100 families graciously consented to donation on behalf of their loved ones. Their gifts resulted in over 1,050 corneal transplants, 1,214 tissues for research, and over 20,000 tissue grafts including skin for burn victims, heart for valve replacement, and bone for those suffering from cancer and injury.

At the ceremony we will light 476 candles in honor of the 476 eye and tissue donors in 2005. The event will bring together donor families, recipients, doctors, and other healthcare professionals who work hard helping families through the donation process.

On March 13, 2006 from 5:00pm-close the McMenamins Rams Head Restaurant on NW 23rd Avenue will host a benefit to help the Eye Bank and CTS with the costs surrounding the Candlelight Vigil. One half of all sales of food and beverage that evening will be given to the Eye Bank and CTS. We would like to invite you all to join us for an evening of good food, good drink, and good company in support of this wonderful event. If you have any questions please contact Corrina Patzer at 503-413-8376.

Eye Bank Couriers for January 2006

Dave Schnebley
Marshall Goodwin (2)
Les Tyo
Milt & Mary Lou Anderson
Carol Cable
Ed Hewitt
Lyle Williams
Kelly Tharp
R. D. Burks
Faye Bowers
Don Bowers
Ken Milligan
Everett Cook
Steve Roden
Art Perkins
Richard & Myra Beeler
Bill Gerkin
Ross & Jan Scott (2)
George & Brenda Taylor
Tom Hammond
Charles Hulings
Linda Thomson
Harue Mae Ninomiya
Iva Sue & Jack Elmer
Harold Wyler (2)

Albany East Lions Club
Beavercreek Lions Club
Beaverton Lions Club
Bend Sunrise Lions Club
Central Lions Club
Columbia Crest Lions Club
Columbia Crest Lions Club
Corvallis Mid-Valley Lions Club
Eugene Cascade Lions Club
Eugene Downtown Lioness Club
Eugene Downtown Lions Club
Fort Vancouver Lions Club
Friend of Lions
Friend of Lions
Gresham Supper Lions Club
Hillsboro Lions Club
King City Lions Club
Lake Oswego Lions Club
Medford Crater Lions Club
Milwaukie Lions Club
North Medford Lions Club
Portland Bentham Lions Club
Portland Bentham Lions Club
Portland Central Eastside Lions Club
Portland Columbia Lions Club

Martin Johansen
Bud Riley
Cliff Temple
Herman Meyer (2)
Bernetta Playford
Shauna Perkins
Bill Guyer
Renee J. Neal
Trevor Lewis
Bill Nelson
Bob Kraetsch
Daryl Pulley
Don Groth (2)
Stan Wax
Dick LeFrancis (2)
Gayle Gilmour
Bob Franklin
Bob Tinnell
Kay Franklin
Larry Drake
Carol & Ed Casciato
Linda Byerley
Herb DeVos (2)
Lee Wacker
Brenda & Bud Wilkinson

Portland Columbia Lions Club
Portland Downtown Lions Club
Portland Downtown Lions Club
Portland Downtown Lions Club
Portland Hollywood Lions Club
Portland Hollywood Lions Club
Portland Lloyds Lions Club
Portland Parkrose Lions Club
Portland Parkrose Lions Club
Portland Roseway Lions Club
Portland Roseway Lions Club
Portland Roseway Lions Club
Portland Roseway Lions Club
Portland Roseway Lions Club
Portland Roseway Lions Club
Redmond Lions Club
Salem Downtown Lions Club
Salem West Lions Club
Salem West Lions Club
Salem West Lions Club
Salem West Lions Club
Salem West Lions Club
Salem West Lions Club
South Salem Lions Club
Springfield Lions Club
Springfield Lions Club
Tigard 2000 Lions Club



March is Diabetes Awareness Month

George Sahlberg, PDG
OLSHF Chairman

According to the Center for Disease Control, nearly 21 million Americans are believed to be diabetic and 41 million more are prediabetic. The number of Oregonians who are living with diabetes has risen 30% over the past decade. Many more are living with the disease but do not know it. Diabetes is linked to several other health problems: including blindness, kidney failure and coronary heart disease. Your Foundation is addressing this growing disease through our Mobile Health Screening Unit Program, providing free diabetes testing since 1994 in communities statewide.

The MHSU Program is the only free diabetes testing program in the state. Over the years we have identified more than 1,300 adults who have diabetes but were not aware until they visited the screening van. The MHSU has played an important part in helping these individuals manage their diabetes and in some cases has possibly saved their lives.

I volunteer often as a diabetes screener for the MHSU and have helped to identify many with possible diabetes. Sometimes the individual had a feeling something was wrong. They may have been extra thirsty or recently lost weight. For others, they had no idea and no family history. If not for the MHSU Testing Program, their diabetes might not have been identified before it was too late to manage.

The MHSU Program has been recognized by many organizations and foundations for its commitment to diabetes awareness. Our program would not be possible without the generous corporate support of Regence BlueCross BlueShield of Oregon, who last month provided the Foundation with an exciting public relations opportunity.

Regence BlueCross BlueShield of Oregon is sponsoring to have our MHSU Program featured in the April edition of *Partnerships NW*, a quarterly publication reaching 17,000 CEO's and homeowners in the Portland Metro Area. We will be purchasing extra copies to use for publicity efforts. What an excellent way to spread the message of the Foundation, our MHSU and Lions to a whole new demographic. Regence is sponsoring us for this publication because they see how our program is providing healthier communities.

This month, please make it a priority to be tested and to have your club host an MHSU Community Event. Over the last year or so, we've witnessed a decline in public screening events. Without these community screenings people in need of diabetes testing might not receive it. We need your help in bringing the MHSU to your community.

Have you scheduled the MHSU for this summer yet? If not, contact the Foundation for available dates. Remember the new MHSU vehicle will be unveiled in Albany at the MD-36 Convention and available for events starting June 1st. Be the first to have the new unit visit your area. The MHSU is probably the most prominent exposure of Lionism to come to your town and draws a lot of attention.

I thank each of you for your club's efforts in keeping Lionism alive and bringing much needed services to your areas through the MHSU program. Keep up the good work!

"In a Suitcase" cont from p.12

The number of stories abound and continue to become success stories due to the efforts of Dr. Lowery. Although the clinic is based at the Oregon School for the Blind, Dr. Lowery takes the clinic on the road several times per year to provide service to Columbia, Northwest, Eastern, Central and Southern Oregon Regional Programs. He's a one-man clinic in a suitcase!

Dr. Lowery sees about 150 children a year, but he estimates that there are over 1000 youth in the state who are visually impaired. "These are the kids who fall in the cracks. Everything is more difficult for them. Some have subtle vision problems. Some have vision problems that are not detected until they are 3-4 years old. Many of them have multiple handicap issues, and vision problems are not immediately identified."



Thanks to financial support from Oregon Lions Clubs, The OLSHF established the State Clinic to provide this unique service bridging the gap between medical eye care and the functional vision assessment that the teacher of the visually impaired provides. Dr. Lowery works hand in hand with special education vision teachers and classroom teachers to provide adequate strategy to help the children with low vision acuity.

The Lions Statewide Low Vision Clinic has come a long way since it was started in 1986 by Dr. Sandy Landis on an initial grant from Oregon Lions. After a few bumpy years with budgets, the Clinic is now an official program of the OLSHF, ensuring ongoing financial support.

Dr. Lowery is in his 8th year as the Clinic optometrist. While the Clinic's existence is due to funding by the OLSHF, Dr. Lowery attributes the success to "a team effort with many organizations providing key resources. But the primary reason the Clinic works for each student is the team effort of educators, parents, and support staff, who each provide a critical and caring piece of themselves."

Taking it one step further to its core, the OLSHF recognizes the fact that without the kindness and generosity of Dr. Lowery there might not be a low vision services available for the majority of children with visual impairment in the State of Oregon.

Memorials & Gifts*

*Donations from January 16 to February 20

Club/Org Gifts

Bandon Lions Club
Corvallis Lions Club
Ford Family Foundation
Lake Oswego Lions Club
Lions Club International Foundation
The ODS Companies Employee Giving Campaign
Oregon Community Foundation
Springfield Mohawk Lions Club

Individual Gifts

Bob Reichert
Jack & Susan Stoops
Jerry C. Routson
Kirk Sellman
Phil & Linda Cox
Richard Kingsley
Thomas Hendrix
Willy Hamstra

Memorial Gifts

In Memory of "Mikey"
PDG John & Eileen Codino
In Memory of Archie Lester
Fred & Mary Jette
PID Bob Thoman
In Memory of Beryl Langley
PDG Ken & Joyce Perkins
In Memory of Betty Weyand
PDG R.E. Walker
In Memory of Chris Lindseth
PDG Ken & Joyce Perkins
In Memory of Fred Kemps
King City Lions Club
In Memory of H.A. Sunday
Arne E. Udelius
Art & Diana Carroll
Dorinne McKeown
Edward & Cherie Vannet
Fred & Mary Jette
George & Sophia Imai
Jan & Lillian Kurahara
Kenneth & Bonnie Kirby

Memorial Gifts, cont.

Leonard & Viola Hutson
Melvin & Mary Ellen Picking
Annette & Leonard Mays
Susann Rivera
Richard & Violet Kenward
Robert & Yukiko Sumoge
PID Bob Thoman
Edward & Harriet Kelly
Trudy N. Tallman
In Memory of Joan Curry
PDG R.E. Walker & Sandra Cummins
In Memory of JoAnn Dodge
PDG Richard & Vicki Smith
In Memory of June Brown
PCC Bob Mackey & Marilyn Elliott
In Memory of Kay Taylor
N. J. Baker
In Memory of Kenneth Edward Rueber
Larry & Deloris Rueber
In Memory of Mary Branstetter
Bernita Ready
Josephine Hodgdon
Pilot Rock Lions Club
In Memory of PDG Bob Howe
Amber Kern & Warren Johnson
PDG Art & Jean Rotter
Don & Lou Ebbert
Gary & Louise Hottel
PDG George & Hilda Sahlberg
PDG Jean Covill
Lions Past District Governor Association
PCC Charlie & Peggy Tate
Prineville Lions Club
Jim & Sue Jagers
PID Bob Thoman
Sharon & Dale Rollins
PDG Vincent F. Bishop
Bill Nourse
In Memory of PDG Walt Morton
Bess Morton
In Memory of Ray Harris
North Bend Lions, Inc.
Rose Wohl & Jay Pollack

The Legacy Circle

assures success and stability of the
Oregon Lions
Sight & Hearing Foundation.

Join today and make a difference in tomorrow.

For a Memorial Directive or more information, please contact
Paul Morris at The Foundation 503-827-6952

January Impact Report

Our Patient Services and Programs impacted the lives of 9,776 people including:

Patient Care - 8
KEX Kids Fund - 112
Hearing Aids Distributed - 39
Referral Calls - 73
Sam Tyler - 2
MHSU People Screened - 2,777
Eyeglasses and Hearing Aids Collected - 7,954

The Lions Eye Bank impacted the lives of 987 people including:

Transplants - 96
Donors - 99
Donor Calls - 723



Oregon Lions Sight & Hearing Foundation

"Providing programs that positively impact quality of life"



"Optometry in a Suitcase" - Success on Oregon's Back Roads

Imagine for a moment that you're a young teenager. You want to fit in with your peers. You want to be accepted and liked. But your vision isn't the best. You may not be able to see the snickers, but you can certainly hear the snide and insensitive comments. Imagine your sadness regarding something that you have no control over.

Then imagine that you meet this soft spoken, caring man whose demeanor and comforting voice provides a promise for a better tomorrow.



Dr. Lowery gives Ross his eye exam. Ross who had strabismus as a child, is experiencing headaches, and possibly a reoccurrence of his condition.

Dr. John P. Lowery, O.D., M.Ed. may not be able to make the comments cease, but his "suitcase of hope" provides potential for you through visual aids that may increase your ability to keep up with your peer's education. Those aids may not answer all of your problems, but they may provide you an opportunity to keep up with the same education as your peers. And that's half the battle.

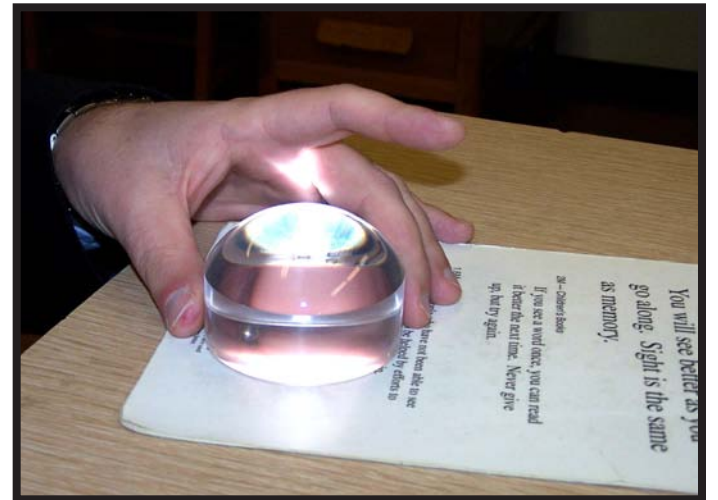
Dr. Lowery estimates that 50% of children are not using the visual aids as designed simply because they don't want to use them in front of their peers. "That's why it's important to get kids to use these earlier, like in 1st grade. At that stage

in life, it often becomes a classroom participation event," comments Dr. Lowery. What may be fodder for jokes in the awkward teen dominance-through-harassment years, often presents itself as "cool" to a very different, younger audience in earlier grades. Raising awareness of patient and peers alike at that early stage not only encourages increased usage, but also a better understanding and acceptance by those who otherwise might tease.

At first glance the Magnacam appears to be some sort of light-defracting crystal for wiling away the time watching the sun dance on your wall. But Dr. Lowery has changed the lives of many Oregonians with this magnifying visual aid. The stories read like emotional vignettes that every Lion can be proud of.

How about Michael of Klamath Falls! This young boy's family could not afford the device so Dr. Lowery contacted the Klamath Falls Lions Club who came to the rescue. And how about Sarah from Central Point! "She has colobomas which are developmental defects of the eyes which cause her vision to be reduced to legally blind." Her mother, Debbie, also has visual impairment from congenital cataracts.

Thanks to the Central Point Lions, The Oregon Lions Sight and Hearing Foundation (OLSHF) and Dr. Lowery, Both mother and daughter will now be able to read along together so that Debbie can help Sarah improve her reading skills. Previously they could never read together since they would both need to get too close to the book.



continued inside on page 10.

#14: Oregon Tax Return Charitable Checkoff #14 hits the Mark

Make a difference in the lives of Oregonians by participation in the Charitable Checkoff Program. Designate ALL or a portion of your 2005 Oregon State tax refund to Code 14 - the Oregon Lions Sight & Hearing Foundation. Enter "14" in the Charitable Checkoff portion of your tax return to positively impact the quality of life of OVER 100,000 people per year.

Brochures that explain what the Foundation accomplishes, and how tax payers can participate, are now available for your Lions Club to hand out to your family, friends and acquaintances. Never before have Lions had an opportunity of such broad proportions. Now, everyone whose heart we touch can do their part to support our foundation. To order brochures, please call Tom Geil at 503-827-6952, ext 11, or email Tom.Geil@orlions.org.

Through your efforts, we will continue to provide health services to Oregonians in need.



Bring your Individual and Club donation and/or pledges to

OLSHF CASINO NIGHTS

DISTRICT G

Friday, March 10th at 6 PM
Red Lion - Pendleton

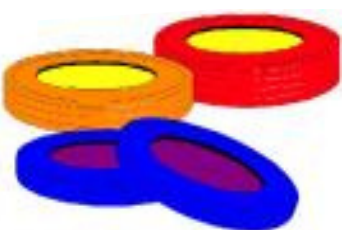
DISTRICT E

Friday, March 24th at 6 PM
Red Lion - Coos Bay



- For each dollar donated, you and /or your club will receive chips to play
- For individual donations chip exchange is 10:1, while club donations is 5:1.
- Use your winnings to bid on *fabulous prizes* in the silent & oral auctions taking place immediately following the Casino action
- All clubs donating at the Casino Night and convention will receive special recognition

Casino Nights: An evening dedicated to supporting children & adults in your community through YOUR foundation's programs.



Thank You for Your Support!