

Eye Opener



October 2006

ODEF Statistics July 1, 2005— June 30, 2006

- 584 Corneas provided for transplant
- 255 Whole eyes dedicated for research and education projects
- 56 Percent of tissue used for transplant
- 6260 Referrals screened by ODEF staff

Islander Receives the Gift of Sight

Old Dominion Eye Foundation (ODEF) Medical Director Donna Brown, M.D., enjoys caring for those less fortunate. For the past several years she has participated in a medical mission trip to St. Vincent and the Grenadines. During the week long trip she and several other Richmond - area physicians work tirelessly to provide medical care to those less fortunate on the island.

Dr. Brown was particularly concerned about a patient that returned to the eye clinic three years in a row.. Mr. Charles Cadman had no vision in his right eye and could only see light in his left. Although he could not tell Dr. Brown what caused his vision loss, she suspected trauma or a prior infection. Dr. Brown knew a corneal transplant could help

restore some vision to Charles. However, she was hesitant to operate on him because there was no post -operative follow up available.

Prior to leaving for her mission trip this January she spoke with a Cuban ophthalmologist who was planning on practicing on the island for two years and felt he could follow the patient after a transplant. She immediately contacted ODEF to see if there was tissue that could be donated for Charles' surgery. Dr. Brown was able to take tissue with her and Charles received a cornea transplant on January 23, 2006.

Fortunately, the patient was able to have immediate results. "Charles walked into the clinic for surgery using a cane because his vision was so bad. He left without his cane!" said Dr. Brown. She will be able to evaluate his progress when she returns to the islands next February.



Charles Cadman after the transplant performed by Dr. Donna Brown during a mission trip to St. Vincent and the Grenadines.

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Donate Life Day at The Diamond

ODEF, LifeNet, the United Network for Organ Sharing, and the Coalition on Donation sponsored Donate Life Day at The Diamond, home of the Richmond Braves.

On June 4, 2006, donor families, recipients and transplant professionals joined to help educate game

attendees on the benefits of organ, tissue, and eye donation. Team Donate Life had the opportunity to join players on the field for the ceremonial first pitch and game attendees were given the opportunity to sign up to be a donor.

Corneal recipient, Caleb Carter (9), throws out the ceremonial first pitch during Donate Life Day at The Diamond June 4, 2006.

Gifts and Memorials

In Memory of

My Cornea Donor

From Edith Fleming
Mabel Shelton
Marcia Berrien

Dr. Robert Allen

From Desmond M. Savill

Nell Agavino

From Ralph F. Agavino

Patricia Archer

From Harold G. Archer

Donna G. Brown

From Nathan and Joanne Brown

L. Paul Byrne

From Mary Louise Byrne

Casey

From Wendell Presley

Dr. Salvatore Culosi, Jr.

From Marvin and Dede Lang
Tracey A. Friess
Robert L. Jordan
H. F. Amerau
Rebecca L. Kirk
Rosemary Wilcox
Friends and Family of Peyton Place

Anne Kress

Logistics Management Group

Syma R. Mendelsohn

Richard and Sue Dexter

Martin J. Michlik

Lara Meeker

Joanne C. Seiser

Gary and Anne LaVoy

Stephen G. Krum

Adrienne R. White

Judith A. Arcerio

Salvatore A. Traina

Paul Cho and Associates, PLLC

Nancy Caroline Foster

Dr. Kwon Choe

Dr. Alice Tseng

Sonda G. Viscomi

Donna Casey

Tanina N. Vassallo

Robert and Sandra Gulley

Willam R. Edmonds, Sr.

From Janice S. Edmonds

Norman Gooding

From Everlene Brewer

Dr. C. Thomas Harvey

From the Danville Host Lions

Dr. Frank I. Hobbs

From Mr. & Mrs. W.E. Wilson, III

Charles E. Johnson

From Margaret M. Johnson

Ida Marie Kavanagh

From Robert Kavanagh

George Kelly

From M. W. Kelly

William Lauterbach

From Mt. Vernon Chapter AARP

Mary R. Linkenhaker

From Eunice L. Hundley

Frank S. Lloyd

From J. Kenneth Taylor

Wayne Moore

From Patricia Moore

Imal Jean Nipper

From Nicey Rife

Gordon Ruble

From Rodney Fitzpatrick

Olga Ruggiero

From Mr. and Mrs. Julian F. Jones

Danny Schiaffo

From Nick Schiaffo

Nick Schiaffo, Sr.

From Nick Schiaffo

In Honor Of

Forty-Five Years of Marriage

From Michelle M. Pendergast

Grace Cupido

From Maria Zlotnick

Auralea Curtis

From Lee Chaffee

Dr. Connell Trimber

From Dr. Roy Gillinson

Gifts in Kind

George Allin, Jr.

Omar Ashraf

Ada Blevins

Harold Bruce

Richard and Debbie Chaffin

Phyllis M. Clemmey

A.N. Daniel

Bernard Dixon

Hallet Dudley

Robert A. Garland

Robert and Barbara George

John O. Gregory, PID

Mr. and Mrs. Gunst

Richard MacDonald

John and Mary Hall

Clarence E. Hawkins

William W. Hibbert, III

Mary Hill

Thomas Jefferson, III

Lucy M. Jones

Malen Kzadeh Moshashaie

Takeo and Linda Nishioka

Charlotte Phelps

Robert J. Pratt

Robert Skinner

Mr. and Mrs. Alan B Smith

Marcia Turner

Elsie Ward

Julian Winn

Eugene and Ruthann White

Lois N. G. Whitehead

Lions Club Contributions

24-A

Alexandria Host

Alexandria Lincolnia

Annandale

Arlington South

Bailey's Cross Roads

Brandy Station

Bull Run/Evergreen

Burke Centre

Burke Host

Clifton

Colonial Beach

Culpeper '92

Dahlgren

Dale City

Dumfries-Potomac

Fairfax Host

Falls Church

Fauquier

Fredericksburg Host

Gainesville/New Baltimore

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Glen Allen - Short Pump

Goochland County

Gretna

Highland Springs Sandston

Hopewell

Lawrenceville

Lynchburg Host

Madison Heights

Madison Heights Lioness Club

Mechanicsville

Petersburg

Continued on page 4

DLEK Restores Patient's Vision to 20/20

Patricia Wilkinson was used to depending on others. Her extremely blurred vision made it impossible for her to read unassisted. "I had to carry a magnifying glass everywhere I went," said Mrs. Wilkinson. She was diagnosed with Fuch's Dystrophy, an inherited eye disease that affects both corneas causing them to swell and distort vision.

Most Fuch's patients will eventually end up needing a corneal transplant to restore their vision. Patricia was no different. However, she was surprised to learn from her surgeon, Dr. Garth Stevens, that she was a perfect candidate for a new procedure called deep lamellar endothelial keratoplasty or DLEK. DLEK is designed to replace only the endothelium without disturbing the corneal

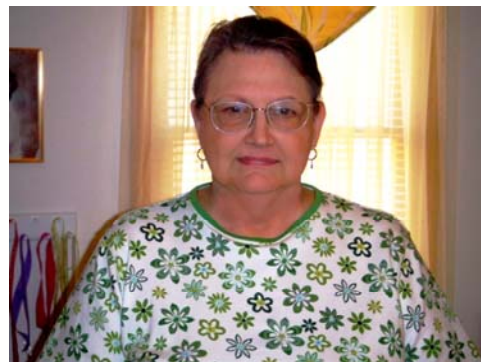
surface as opposed to a full thickness corneal transplant.

The greatest benefit of the DLEK is that the surgery does not change the cornea's topography, virtually eliminating surgery induced astigmatism, a common occurrence after a full thickness graft. Also, not having to use sutures means there is less chance for infection and the eye is able to heal much more quickly.

Patricia thinks DLEK was a great choice for her, "There was a little pain the first night but it was gone as soon as the patch was removed the next day." The vision improvement was apparent almost immediately. Within a week she noticed a definite improvement. "At my 2 week appointment Dr. Stevens told me I was seeing better than

I should be," boasts Mrs. Wilkinson. She now has 20/20 vision in both eyes.

For anyone considering the DLEK procedure, Patricia advises, "Talk to your doctor about your options. Do not believe all of the hearsay or information you read on the internet." She also has not forgotten where the corneal tissue came from. "It is a wonderful thing that my donors' families could follow through with their loved ones' wishes. This has been such a miracle to me; the difference in my vision is remarkable."



Bilateral corneal recipient Patricia Wilkinson now sees with 20/20 vision.

ODEF Inducts 2006—2007 Board of Directors

Old Dominion Eye Foundation held its Annual Meeting July 19, 2006 at the Jefferson Hotel in Richmond, Virginia. The meeting featured presentations from the ODEF staff on the eye bank's activities throughout the year. Dinner was followed by an awards presentation and an induction of the 2006-2007 Executive Committee.

Donna D. Brown, M.D., a member of the prestigious Cornea Society was selected as ODEF's new Medical Director. Dr. Brown specializes in pediatric ophthalmology, adult

strabismus, and corneal and external eye disease at the Virginia Eye Institute.

The Board Elected Hal Gay as the new President. Donald Rinehart, PDG, will serve as Vice President and Michael Oglesby as Secretary.

Several new faces were added to the board—Douglas Cross, Gail Gilver, RN, and Binoy R. Jani, M.D.

ODEF welcomes the new Executive Committee and Board members. We look forward to working with you for another successful year.



Board President Harris Burke presents William and Pat Shattuck with a plaque recognizing their efforts during the 2005-2006 year as Eye Bank Chairs for District 24-A.

Contributions Continued

Richmond Lakeside
Rustburg
South Boston
South Hill
Tuckahoe

24-C

Augusta
Buena Vista
Charlottesville Host
Charlottesville Lioness
Lake of the Woods
Madison County
Orange
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Waynesboro
Winchester Lioness
Winchester-Shawnee
Woodrow Wilson Lioness

24-E

Bluefield
Christiansburg
Ferrum
Hollins
Moneta

Vinton Host

24-F

Keokee
Norton
St. Charles
Tazewell

Old Dominion Eye Foundation is a non-profit organization supported by the Lions of Virginia. If you would like to make a contribution to ODEF [please click here](#).

ODEF Says Thanks



ODEF Associate Director Christina Jenkins and Bill Proctor, ODEF Executive Director make a special visit to the General Assembly Building to present Senator Janet Howell with a token of appreciation on behalf of ODEF and its Board for her support of organ, tissue and eye donation in the Commonwealth.

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