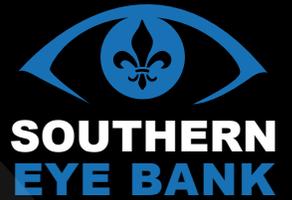


ENVISION

Volume 4 • Issue 1 • Spring/Summer 2016



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PHOTO BY

LAURA GUISE - LOUISIANA
PHOTOGRAPHER AND DONOR
MOM OF SADI (SEE PAGE 5)



THE MISSION OF SOUTHERN EYE BANK:

“To preserve and restore sight, Southern Eye Bank recovers, processes, and distributes donor tissue for ocular surgery and research based on need.”

PRESIDENT’S MESSAGE

As the new President of the Board of Trustees at Southern Eye Bank, I am thrilled to lead such a driven and capable team and excited to spearhead the mission of restoring the Gift of Sight. We have seen great success with Southern Eye Bank over the past year and are looking to 2016 for even more expansion and outreach.

Established in 1947, Southern Eye Bank is a non-profit organization providing eye tissue for transplantation as well as research and education throughout the globe. Today, we are the third oldest eye bank in the country, giving the Gift of Sight to over 40,000 people since its inception.

This year, we celebrated our 8th Annual Gift of Sight Celebration to celebrate the lives of those who have donated or received tissue. This event was extremely well attended; despite the rain, approximately 480 people participated in a variety of activities and enjoyed the picnic at the zoo. The Gift of Sight Celebration is an important part of who we are and provides the opportunity to give back to those that are essential to our mission. Many thanks to those who participated and the staff and volunteers who made the event another success. The event serves as a wonderful reminder about the importance of donation and how impactful it is to the lives of the families that provide tissue and to those who receive the Gift of Sight.

Southern Eye Bank is dedicated to providing a positive experience for both donor families and recipients, and in this issue you will read about successful exchanges between these parties. The donor families can be comforted with the fact that their loved one’s legacy lives on through selfless donation and spreading the Gift of Sight.

Southern Eye Bank would cease to exist if it weren’t for the incomparable hands that help to sustain it. We appreciate the efforts put forth by our generous donors, our cherished community partners, and our fearless doctors pushing our mission ever forward with new methods, technologies, and possibilities.

I invite you to learn more about our organization in this volume of Envision. We are ever looking to better our information and hope that you contribute your thoughts in the future. As always, we welcome your suggestions and comments regarding this newsletter.

Q: Which part of the eye can be transplanted?
Answer on Page 3

- Gerard Plauché

Q: What is the least common eye color?
 Answer on Page 4

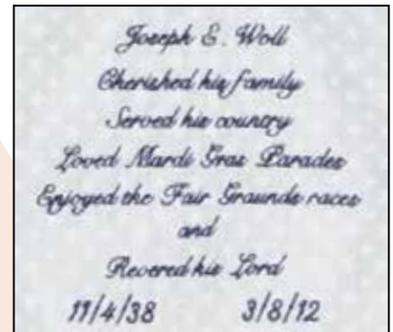
Hero Spotlight: JOSEPH WOLL

Gloria Woll, wife of eye donor, Joseph Woll, recently expressed her gratitude to Southern Eye Bank. Her loved one, Joseph, passed away on March 8, 2012. She designed a quilt square to celebrate his life. It has taken Mrs. Woll years to be able to cope with her husband's passing and she said that making the quilt square for Southern Eye Bank's legacy quilt was very therapeutic and comforting for her. She personally delivered the quilt square to Southern Eye Bank's staff and shared wonderful stories. For others to learn about Mr. Woll, as the staff had, Mrs. Woll wrote a beautiful tribute to her husband that will correspond with his quilt square. She stated:



"I used the word 'cherish' to describe how Joseph felt about his family. He was a dear husband, father, and grandfather. One of his legacies, which my children and grandchildren will remember, is the ritual of dying Easter eggs for their Easter baskets. He would line up several cups of water, and the children would put their favorite color pellet in each cup. It became a 'work of art' by the time they were finished with their project. I used the word 'serve' to describe his love for his Country. Joseph graduated from Loyola University in 1961, and was commissioned as a Second Lieutenant in the U.S. Army Reserve. He retired as a Lieutenant Colonel in 1998. I used the word 'love' to describe how he felt about Mardi Gras. Joseph loved the parades. He would pile our children and their friends in our old Chevy and head off to the night parades. He enjoyed taking the grandchildren too, in his later years.

I used the word "enjoy" to describe how Joseph felt about the New Orleans' Fair Grounds. He enjoyed going to the track, and making a few bets on his favorite horses. Sometimes, he would just go and watch them saddle up the horses. And lastly, I used the word 'revere' to describe how Joseph felt about his faith. He was a good Catholic and served his Lord faithfully."





MARK YOUR CALENDARS!



STRIKES FOR SIGHT

July 28, 7:00 - 9:00 p.m.

ROCK N' BOWL

\$38 per person/\$210 per team (6 player max)

SCORE FOR SIGHT

September 17, 1:00 - 4:00 p.m.

Youngsville Sports Complex

\$150 per team (includes t-shirt)

CALL 504-891-3937 ext. 1000 TO RESERVE YOUR SPOT OR LEARN MORE.

REGISTER ONLINE TODAY: www.SouthernEyeBank.com

Q: What causes an eye to twitch?
Answer on Page 5

SOUTHERN EYE BANK VISITS THE CARIBBEAN ISLAND OF GRENADA



Dr. Rebecca Metzinger

In March, Southern Eye Bank expanded its global reach through support of a successful mission trip to the Caribbean Island of Grenada. Southern Eye Bank board member Dr. Rebecca Metzinger, along with fellow ophthalmologist, Dr. Bernard Spier, traveled to the island in order to provide critically needed voluntary services to the people of Grenada. The team spent two 14-16 hour clinic days caring for more than 90 patients. Later in the week, Dr. Metzinger and Dr. Spier performed surgery at the General Hospital of Grenada. Together, the two doctors completed 23 cataract surgeries, four corneal transplants, one intravitreal injection, two pterigium removals and four laser surgeries in just two days of service. Dr. Metzinger's efforts brought corneal transplantation to the island. This was a

new service for them.



The week culminated with Dr. Metzinger, on behalf of Southern Eye Bank, presenting a donation of four corneal tissues for transplants and a financial grant to assist in the continued development of the SGU ophthalmology program. Dr. Spier also made a significant contribution by donating funds and ophthalmology supplies. Dr. Spier had trained at St. George's University in Grenada and truly appreciated the opportunity to give back to the program that taught him so much. Both doctors are dedicated to improving the eye health in Grenada and have pledged to continue working with the community to reduce eye disease.

TRANSPLANT GAMES OF AMERICA



Far Left: Breanna Green

“All Roads Lead to Cleveland” was the theme of the 2016 Transplant Games, which took place on June 10-15, 2016 in Cleveland, Ohio. The Donate Life Transplant Games is a festive multi-sport event for participants who have either undergone vital transplant surgeries or are living donors. Competition is open to anyone who has received a solid organ transplant, bone marrow donation, or other qualified corneal and tissue transplant recipients. More than just an athletic competition, the Donate Life Transplant Games highlights the critical importance of organ, eye and tissue donation, while celebrating the lives of donors and recipients. The games are organized by the Transplant Games of America, a 501 (c)(3) non-profit organization. This year, Southern Eye Bank sponsored Breanna Green as a participant in the games. Her transplant was performed by Board Member, Dr. Ginny Kullman. Breanna participated in the 10K race, darts and bowling where she earned a gold medal! We are so proud of her accomplishments!



A: The cornea

ST. THOMAS COMMUNITY HEALTH CENTER PARTNERS AGAIN WITH SOUTHERN EYE BANK



Dr. Donald Costello

Southern Eye Bank has agreed to continue its support of the St. Thomas Community Health Center in 2016, run by Dr. Donald Costello. The clinic at the St. Thomas Community Health Center is a full-service primary care and eye clinic that provides routine eye care, urgent care, and treats ocular disease in the community. Almost 80% of the patients seen here live substantially below the Federal Poverty Level. This clinic is their only medical resource for eye health and care.

With support from Southern Eye Bank, Dr. Costello will purchase a Humphrey Field Analyzer this year. This piece of equipment can diagnose and measure the progression of visual field loss. It is an extremely useful tool when assessing glaucoma, stroke, retinitis pigmentosa, and plaquenil retinal toxicity. The Humphrey Field Analyzer is considered the standard of care in every eye doctor's office that treats glaucoma. This field analyzer will largely help prevent blindness in the community, as St. Thomas Health Center estimates that over 25% of the patients will have glaucoma. The 2015 grant provided by Southern Eye Bank allowed St. Thomas Health Center to purchase an optical coherence tomographer (OCT), corneal topographer, non-mydratic fundus camera, and a Smart System Vision testing system. In previous years, the grant funds provided by Southern Eye Bank have also allowed the eye clinic at St. Thomas Health Center to purchase a retinal camera and a Vision Testing System Letter Chart. This is an example of the continued success of this partnership.

DONATE LIFE FLAG RAISING AND SEB AWARDS PRESENTED

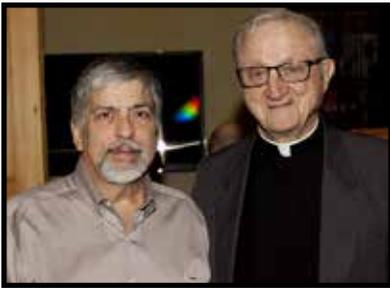
On April 5, 2016, at Lake Charles Memorial Hospital, Southern Eye Bank (SEB) and the Louisiana Organ Procurement Agency celebrated National Eye Donor Awareness Month (March) and National Donor Awareness Month (April) with an award presentation and Donate Life Flag Raising. This joint celebration honored our heroes and helped to remind our community of the need for organ, tissue and eye donation. The award presentation honored **Lake Charles Memorial Hospital** with **SEB's Hospital of the Year Award** while the **Calcasieu Parish Coroner's Office and the Citizens of Calcasieu Parish** were awarded **SEB's Vision Champion Award**. Chief Nursing Officer Marilyn McSwain accepted the award for the hospital and Chief Investigator, Charles Hunter, Jr. , accepted the Vision Champion Award for the coroner's office. Vision Champion Awards are given to Southern Eye Bank partners committed to fostering donation in their communities and in recognition of the generosity of our donors. These partners help make donation a viable option for families and extend the impact of the Gift of Sight. Through our partners' support, donation becomes a vehicle of hope both for the donor families and their recipients. **Lafayette General Medical Center** was also given the **Vision Champion Award** in recognition of the outstanding professional collaboration and compassionate service to patients and their families that have advanced the Gift of Sight through ocular tissue donation. Calcasieu Parish Police Jury President, Chris Landry, also accepted a Vision Champion Award on behalf of the citizens of Calcasieu Parish, honoring their generosity and grace while choosing to help others through cornea donation. The family of organ, tissue and eye donor, Trooper Steven Vincent, who was killed in the line of duty last year, was present at the ceremony as were several representatives from the Louisiana State Police. Trooper Vincent's son Ethan helped raise the flag in honor of all donors.



Joy Fragola (Southern Eye Bank), Charles Hunter, Jr. (Chief Investigator), Ethan Vincent (son of late Trooper Steven Vincent), Marilyn McSwain (Chief Nursing Officer), Chris Landry (Police Jury President)

110 YEARS OF SUCCESSFUL CORNEAL TRANSPLANTATION

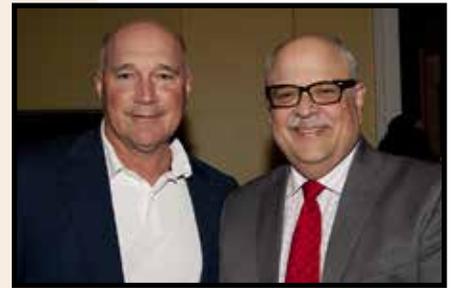
To celebrate 110 years of successful corneal transplantation, Southern Eye Bank and the New Orleans Academy of Ophthalmology hosted a reception on May 6, 2016, at Latrobe’s on Royal. The event brought together both organizations, as well as physicians and professionals working in eye care, to discuss their findings in an informal setting. “Southern Eye Bank is pleased to co-host this event and discuss all that has been accomplished over the last 110 years,” said Co-Medical Director, Dr. Clifford Hendricks, III. “Between New Orleans Academy of Ophthalmology’s mission to promote ophthalmic education and our goal to spread donor awareness for ocular surgery, we look forward to collectively sharing our knowledge with numerous doctors and eye care professionals. Our community service initiatives have made great strides over the past few years, and we are excited to share our stories.”



Board Members, Maurice Gaudet and Father James Carter



Coleman Adler (President, Adler’s Jewelry) and Bill Goldring (Chairman, Sazerac Company)



Dr. Clifford Hendricks (Co-Medical Director) and Dr. Juan Batlle (Surgeon in Dominican Republic)

NATIONAL DONATE LIFE MONTH

Southern Eye Bank is a partner in the “Donate Life” collaborative. Although each month is filled with Donate Life activities, we were honored to be a part of several events held in April, honoring National Donate Life Month. During one event, Dr. Pulin Shah - Co-Medical Director, spoke to a filled auditorium about the Gift of Sight and the kindness and compassion of eye donors.



Also speaking was donor mother, Laura Guise. Mrs. Guise, whose photography is featured on the front-cover of this edition of Envision, shared stories of her daughter Sadi’s determination, strength and courage. She stated “My youngest daughter, Sadi, was an organ/eye donor in 2014 at the age of 21. Even though her life was short, she lived it to the fullest! I can only hope that her recipients see the world and others as she did, with only love, happiness and sprinkled with giggles.”

Dr. Shah explained to the audience that in 1947, Southern Eye Bank had provided the Gift of Sight to only a handful of recipients; now, almost 70 years later, more than 40,000 people have received a sight saving transplant - including two individuals whose sight was restored thanks to Sadi.

Dr. Shah closed his speech with a profound statement. He said, “On behalf of all corneal transplant surgeons, we understand the importance of eye donation and we will always honor our donors and their families who chose to give the Gift of Sight to those in need.”

A: It may be due to stress, tiredness, caffeine, nutritional imbalance, or allergies

Q&A

WITH NEW EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR, JOY MARIE ROUSSEL



What are your first impressions of Southern Eye Bank?

Southern Eye Bank is a fantastic organization that has a long-standing name and reputation in the community. I was impressed to learn that it is one of the oldest eye banks in the United States and carries with it a powerful mission. The team is thoroughly committed to Southern Eye Bank's vision and works extremely well together.

Can you tell me a little more about yourself and your background? Why did you choose Southern Eye Bank?

For the last 10 years, I worked with neurosurgeons and orthopedic spine surgeons as a spine rep, then I worked in healthcare staffing placing nurses, nurse practitioners and physicians in jobs around the greater New Orleans area. My goal was to remain in the healthcare industry and be a part of a small team that I could become quickly integrated with and help direct. It is exciting to work for an organization that you truly believe in and that pairs nicely with continuing my career. There is real satisfaction in contributing to a mission that makes such a difference in people's lives.

What are your new responsibilities as Executive Director?

There are three areas on which I will be focusing: 1. Continuing to strengthen our relationships with our business partners by implementing the latest technologies and procedures; 2. Expand our base of surgeons and continue to be the most consistently reliable eye bank in the region; and 3. Invest in our staff through training and additional technology.

What is your vision for Southern Eye Bank? To carry out the great work that has preceded me and hope to be able to add additional value and ideas.

What do you see as the main challenges and strengths for Southern Eye Bank?

Education is probably the top challenge. As an organization with such a rich history and tradition, the general public still doesn't seem to know much about the world of eye banking and ultimately how we help restore sight. We want to keep our education efforts up and continue to expand our outreach, sharing how we stay current with the latest technology and procedures in eye banking and the ways tissue can be used to restore sight and reduce blindness. Our strength is our staff. They are fantastic at what they do and we are lucky to have them.

What do you do to relax or elaborate on how you spend your spare time?

Exercise and running is part of my general routine. My husband and I spend a lot of time with our children and attend their extracurricular activities. I enjoy reading a variety of genres and have been a book club member for over 10 years. We recently read *Girl on the Train*, *Me Before You* and *Nightingale*, all of which I enjoyed and would recommend. I'm also one of the founding members of the Krewe of Muses and participate in the annual throw selection process and distribution, which may or may not be considered "relaxing."

About Joy Marie Roussel

Joy joins Southern Eye Bank from Gifted Healthcare, LLC, where she worked as Director of Advanced Practice Services. She has over 25 years of professional experience, including 19 in the healthcare industry. Her background includes sales for a major international medical device corporation, Medtronic, office manager, and administrator for physicians' practices. Joy received her Bachelors of Arts from Newcomb College of Tulane University in 1991 and was a member of the Varsity Track Team.



southerneyebank.com

A: Raptors (birds of prey)





SOUTHERN EYE BANK

2701 Kingman Street
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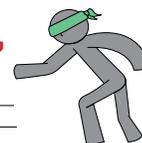
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MARK YOUR CALENDARS!

STRIKES FOR SIGHT - BLINDFOLD-BOWLING

July 28, 7:00 - 9:00 p.m.

- Rock n' Bowl New Orleans
- \$38 per person/\$210 per team (6 player max)



SCORE FOR SIGHT - BLINDFOLD-KICKBALL

September 17, 1:00 - 4:00 p.m.

- Youngsville Sports Complex
- \$150 per team (includes t-shirt)



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