



UNIVERSITY OF MIAMI MILLER SCHOOL OF MEDICINE • BASCOM PALMER EYE INSTITUTE

FLORIDA LIONS EYE BANK

New Sight

## First Pearl Goldberg Fellow Named

The Florida Lions Eye Bank has awarded the Pearl Goldberg Research Fellowship to its first recipient, Dr. Carlos Medina. Dr. Medina completed a combined undergraduate and graduate program in Mexico obtaining his medical degree from the Instituto Tecnológico de Estudios Superiores de Monterrey. During his rotations in the Cole Eye Institute of the Cleveland Clinic Foundation he met Dr. Victor Perez who recruited Dr. Medina to his laboratory of ocular immunology and corneal transplantation at Bascom Palmer. For the past year and a half Dr. Medina has studied how early inflammatory mediated responses play a crucial role in the increased graft rejection of high risk vascularized corneal graft recipients.

Thanks to the Pearl Goldberg Research Fund, Dr. Medina is now working with Dr. Sander Dubovy, Director of the Ocular Pathology Laboratory and the Eye Bank's Medical Director, and will continue his new Fellowship for a full year. Through his work with Dr. Dubovy, Dr. Medina will serve as a liaison between the eye bank,

ocular pathology laboratory, ocular immunology laboratory and the ophthalmic biophysics center and will help enhance our understanding and treatment options for corneal transplant patients.

Furthermore Dr. Medina plans to undertake research in the field of "keratoprosthesis" or "artificial cornea" for patients who can not tolerate human donor corneas.

The funding for this new fellowship came from the Pearl Goldberg Research Fund, which was established last year in honor of the Florida Lions Eye Bank's first Executive Director, Pearl Goldberg.

The Florida Lions Eye Bank hopes to continue raising funds for this program to use for future research projects and fellowships. To donate to the Pearl Goldberg Research Fund please call 305-326-6359.



*Carlos Medina, M.D.*

Lecture Series P. 2  
Tom Daubert Remembered P.2

Mike san Miguel honored P. 3  
A Grand Installation Dinner P.4-5

# Florida Lions Eye Bank

Presents

## **Ophthalmology Today** *Second Annual Lecture Series*

### *Exploring current issues and topics in ophthalmology*

The Florida Lions Eye Bank is sponsoring a series of free public lectures presented by Bascom Palmer Eye Institute's practicing ophthalmologists.

All lectures will begin at 7:30pm at Bascom Palmer Eye Institute Retter Auditorium, 900 NW 17th Street in Miami. Free parking is available on the northwest corner of N.W. 17<sup>th</sup> St. & N.W. 9<sup>th</sup> Ave.

A dessert reception and physician "meet and greet" will follow the lectures. For more information call 1-800-329-7000 ext 6359 or visit [www.fleb.org](http://www.fleb.org).

- Wednesday, September 24th  
*Diabetes, Hypertension & the Eye*
- Wednesday, October 22nd  
*Common Pediatric Ophthalmic Disorders*
- Wednesday, January 28th  
*Laser Vision Correction*
- Wednesday, February 25th  
*Oculoplastic Surgery*
- Wednesday, May 27th  
*Ophthalmic Biophysics Research at BPEI*

## Lion and Past President Tom Daubert Remembered

**L**ions throughout our area are saddened by the recent passing of Tom Daubert, 75, on June 25, 2008. His wife of 51 years, Susan, his children, grandchildren and great-grandson will miss him immensely. The Lions have lost a dedicated, hard-working, and inspirational leader.

Tom was affectionately called "the tail twister" and rightly so! His energy, enthusiasm and sense of humor were unique. Tom Daubert wanted the BEST for the Florida Lions Eye Bank and his actions *were* louder than his words. The Lions knew what he wanted: their support! And he would come right out and ask



for it as he proceeded through the tiered levels of the Retter Auditorium, encouraging his fellow Lions to toss in their pennies to help the eye bank.

Lion Tom Daubert served continuously for 42 years and was a member of three Lions Clubs, most recently the Miami Springs Lions Club. Lion Tom was the recipient of the International Presidents Medal, served as Deputy District Governor, and was asked

to participate in the international convention in Japan and addressed over 6000 Lions. Tom reached out to them as only he could do. All those who knew him will best serve his memory by carrying on his legacy of service.

# A Tradition of Giving Continues



For 30 years Bill Myers and his fellow Lions of the Miami International Airport Lions Club have made a financial commitment to the Florida Lions Eye Bank and kept it. Each year, their club was the very first to make a donation to the Florida Lions Eye Bank, and in those 30 years, their donations totaled over \$30,000. That generosity gave the eye bank the opportunity to purchase much needed equipment and to provide tissue for indigent patients here and abroad. When the Miami International Airport Lions Club disbanded last year the tradition appeared to have ended. But this was not the case.



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This year, the Miami Springs Lions Club (which includes Bill Myers and many of the former Miami International Airport Lions Club's previous members) kicked off the new fiscal year with a check to support the eye bank and its mission to *Give the Gift of Sight*. The Miami Springs Lions Club's 2008-2009 secretary, Doris Sauer, delivered the check to the Eye Bank's administrative assistant, Elina Hackworth. We are grateful that the members of the Miami Springs Lions Club have found it in their hearts to carry on this charitable tradition.

*Have you had a kindness shown?  
Pass it on;  
'Twas not given for thee alone,  
Pass it on;  
Let it travel down the years,  
Let it wipe another's tears,  
'Till in heaven the deed appears-  
Pass it on.*

(*Pass it On*, by Henry Burton)

## Lion Mike san Miguel

### Not once but **three** times honored!

On March 25<sup>th</sup> of this year, the city Commissioners of Lauderdale By the Sea recognized a true *gentle-man* and a loyal friend of the Florida Lions Eye Bank. Mike san Miguel is not only a past president of the eye bank, but has served as treasurer for the Lauderdale By The Sea Lions Club for the past 20 years.

Mike was honored by three separate organizations, all who have the highest regard for him because of his selfless, dedicated service to his community and his fellow man. A beautiful plaque was presented to him by Fire Chief Robert Perkins and Deputy Chief Joseph W. Padden of the city's Volunteer Fire Department because of his commitment to

them as the Secretary-Treasurer of their pension plan.

Police Chief Scott Gooding also acknowledged Mike with a plaque for being such a dedicated volunteer of the Lauderdale By The Sea street patrol, having graduated from the first Citizen Observer patrol class in 1995.

His third plaque set forth the honor and distinction of making March 25<sup>th</sup> "**Miguel san Miguel Day**." And he accepted all of these with the humility that is uniquely his own. Surely Helen Keller is very proud of Mike san Miguel, one of her "*knights of the blind in the crusade of darkness*."

# A Grand Time at Florida Lions Eye



*FLEB Past President Ken Shivel (R) presents the Jimmy Nelson Award to the Naples Nites Lions Club and its president, Jim Klug.*



*Juan and Elizabeth Tejera were awarded the prestigious 2008 Ross Carr Award.*



There were more than 150 guests who attended this year's Annual Installation Dinner Gala at the Signature Grand in Davie, Florida. It was a wonderful evening which included excellent cuisine, entertainment, a silent auction and the installation of the Florida Lions Eye Bank's incoming officers:

William Sweeney, *President*; Stacey Jones, PDG, *Vice President Dist-35-A*; Dr. James Brauss, *Vice President Dist-35-D*; Jim Klug, *Vice President Dist-35-I*; Rosa Galliani, *Secretary*; Louis Figueras, *Treasurer*.

*Directors Dist. 35-A*: John N. DeSouza, Luis E. San Miguel, Victor Lopez de Mendoza; *Directors Dist.35-D*: Robert S. Dawson, PDG, John Del Zio, PDG., Mike San Miguel; *Directors Dist.35-I*: Jim Fitzpatrick, PDG, Mike Griffis, Edwin Nelson.

The entertainment was provided by *The International String Quartet*, who have also performed for the Dutch consulate in Miami.

The silent auction brought out some friendly rivalry among the guests thanks to the generous donation by Southwest Airlines of two tickets anywhere they fly in the U.S.



*President Bill Sweeney and his 2008-09 Officers were installed.*

# Eye Bank 2008 Installation Dinner

Proceeds were 55% higher than last year and topped \$2,000.

The Cattlyas orchids, provided by Amazonia Orchids, adorned each table and Bacardi USA once again supported the Eye Bank by donating Bacardi products and service for the open bar. The evening's sponsors also included Northern Trust Bank and Lubitz Financial Group.

*The Eye Bank thanks all those who made the evening a success. It was a wonderful evening and 2009 will be even better. Plan now to join us!"*



*FLEB Past Presidents Ken Shivel and Bill Arthur enjoyed the cocktail hour with 35-I District Governor Bob Woomer and Lion Bob Hilliard.*



*The International String Quartet played music throughout the evening.*



*District 35-A Director Victor Lopez de Mendoza and his wife look over the silent auction items.*



*ed toward the end of the evening.*

# Donations

Received from March 1, 2008 – July 31, 2008

The Florida Lions Eye Bank is grateful for the generous and support of our many contributors. We appreciate the confidence they have shown in our mission to supply corneas and scleras for sight-saving surgery.

## \$1000 and above

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## \$500 - \$1,000

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*To join the generous donors listed above who have supported the mission of the Florida Lions Eye Bank, please call 305-326-6359 for more information or to make a donation by credit card.*



**NewSight**

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## HOW CAN YOU HELP?

Make certain that you have indicated on your driver's license that you want to be a donor. Or indicate your wishes by signing a donor card. Most importantly, share your desire to be a donor with your family. By doing this, you will have joined with us in achieving our mission:  
*To Give the Gift of Sight.*

## Grateful Patient Praises Eye Bank and Doctor

How pleased I am to send you this reply regarding my cataract and cornea surgery that Dr. Daniel Pope performed on my left eye on April 9, 2008.

I am happy to report that all has gone extremely well thanks to the fine cornea tissue that the Florida Lions Eye Bank provided. Dr. Pope remarked during surgery how pleased he was with the tissue and he has also been very surprised with how fast I have improved. As an 86-year-old woman I feel blessed and my thanks and appreciation are not only with your organization but also to the donor and Dr. Pope.

Thank goodness I am now back to reading and doing crossword puzzles again. God bless you and your Florida Lions Eye Bank and the wonderful service you provide.

*Audrey  
Bradenton, Florida*

*Are you a recipient with a story you would like to share?  
Please contact the Florida Lions Eye Bank at 305-326-6359.*

