

# The Lions Eye

A Publication of the  
Lions Eye Foundation of California-Nevada, Inc.



Fall 2012

## Volunteering in the Eye Clinic - Our Remarkable Doctors

By Lily Tung Crystal

Edited and Updated by Mark Paskvan.

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**Aalo Lupercio**

In early May, Rosa and Javier Lupercio welcomed their second child Aalo into the world. It was a joyous occasion, tempered only by the fact that he arrived fourteen weeks early. His first few weeks of life at California Pacific Medical Center's Neonatal Intensive Care Unit were nerve racking for his parents. Aalo was put on a ventilator and underwent a delicate heart surgery.

Then at two months Aalo finally started to stabilize; gaining weight, eating and breathing on his own. The Lupercios were about to let out a sigh of relief when another issue came to light. "The doctors told us that Aalo had retinopathy of prematurity," recalls Rosa. "We were really scared. I didn't even know babies could come out that early, and now they were saying that he may go blind."

Retinopathy of prematurity, or ROP, is an eye disease that affects premature infants. Blood vessels in the retina develop abnormally, potentially causing serious eye conditions like crossed eyes and severe nearsightedness. ROP is also the leading cause of blindness in children.

### Cause and Risk

It takes an entire 40 weeks for a fetus to fully develop the blood vessels that supply oxygen to the retina. "When babies are born early, their immature retina enters a completely different environment that it had in the womb," explains J. Michael Jumper, M.D., Retina Service Chief, Department of Ophthalmology at CPMC. "That shock changes retinal development, putting the eye at risk for abnormal blood vessel growth, bleeding and scarring." When vessels scar, they often contract, which could lead them to pull and detach the retina.

"ROP has many risk factors," says William Good, M.D., Pediatric/Strabismus Service Chief at CPMC and senior scientist at Smith-Kettlewell Eye Research Institute. "The smaller, sicker, and more premature newborns are, the more likely they will get ROP."

Babies born before 30 weeks of gestation are especially at risk. Nearly 70 percent of preemies who weigh below 2.75 pounds get ROP. If a newborn weighs less than 1.1 pounds, he or she has a 90 percent chance of developing the disease.

### In Good Hands

The positive news is that with early diagnosis and treatment, most children with ROP keep their eyesight. Aalo Lupercio is one of nearly 200 preemies a year who are screened for ROP at CPMC. A very small number of these babies are diagnosed and require intervention. In cases requiring intervention, doctors use laser treatment to destroy the retina cells that trigger abnormal blood vessel growth. If that doesn't stop the progression, a surgeon goes in to decrease the risk of retinal detachment.



**Dr. William Good M.D.**  
Pediatric/Strabismus  
Service Chief at CPMC

(continued on page 2)

**Mission Statement:** "The Lions Eye Foundation preserves and restores the gift of sight by providing free ophthalmic examinations, operations and medications to the less fortunate members of our community."

## *Letter From The Editor - 2 New Lions Clubs*



**Pat Neal**

The Lions Eye Foundation is pleased to welcome two new Lions clubs to the Eye Foundation. At the Board of Trustee meeting in Reno, Nevada on October 28, 2012 the application for membership was formally accepted for the Milpitas Executive Lions Club, from Milpitas, CA. Willow Glen Lions club was formally accepted at the July meeting in San Francisco.

Willow Glen Lions Club boasts a club membership of 24 and the Milpitas Executive Lions Club has an outstanding 60 members in their club. Both Clubs are located in Lions District 4-C6. Again, welcome to both clubs and we look forward to your participation in the Lions Eye Foundation.

### ***SAVE THE DATE!***

Please mark your calendars today for this very important date. The Lions Eye Foundation is planning a retirement party for long time Executive Director Don Stanaway on April 7, 2013. The party will be located somewhere in the San Francisco Bay area and current word is that it will be a fun time for all. Details are currently being finalized and will be included in the next issue of the Lions Eye.

## *Volunteering in the Eye Clinic - Our Remarkable Doctors (cont. from front page)*

In Aalo's case, doctors are taking a wait-and-see approach before they prescribe laser treatment. Rosa and Javier remain optimistic. "I feel like I'm in the best hands possible," Rosa insists. "The doctors and nurses here really care about their patients. And I hear Dr. Good is an amazing eye doctor."

The CPMC staff is doing its best to ensure that every baby has a good start. "It's been years since we've had a baby who lost his vision," explains Aalo's neonatologist, Terri Slagle, M.D., Clinical Director of the Nurseries at CPMC. "Aalo's chances for good eyesight are extremely high. The key is that we're lucky to have two phenomenal retinal specialists here. Dr. Good and Dr. Jumper are national treasures."

### **Vision for the Future**

Because doctors at CPMC are at the forefront of ophthalmological care, more than 90 percent of the babies treated there are cured of ROP. "A premature newborn has a better chance now than ever before because of the advanced therapies we have available to us," assures Dr. Jumper. "Despite ROP being a scary and serious condition, the chance of blindness in both eyes is extremely low."

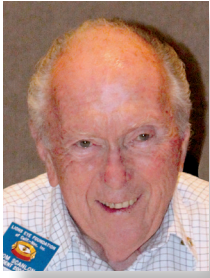
That's thanks in large part to the work of Dr. Good, one of the world's ROP experts, who colleagues call "the guru of ROP." Dr. Good is spearheading a study at the National Institutes of Health that researches methods to prevent and treat ROP.

CPMC's commitment to care and research has helped change the lives of premature babies everywhere, and Rosa wishes the same for Aalo. "I hope that Aalo will see, play sports, and grow up to do anything he wants to do," she muses.

**UPDATE:** Aalo is now four months old and doing very well. His ROP resolved with treatment and he did not require laser surgery.

Dr. J. Michael Jumper and Dr. William Good are both service chiefs in their area of expertise for the Lions Eye Clinic and the CPMC Department of Ophthalmology. Both donate their time and knowledge for our Lions patients and resident doctors in the eye clinic and in surgery.

## Meet Tom Scanlon, LEF' Past President Exemplar



**Tom Scanlon**

Past President Exemplar Tom Scanlon was born and raised on the “South Side of Chicago” where he completed his early education. Tom graduated from Loyola University in 1951 with a major in Political Science and a minor in Economics, soon after joining the United States Air Force, serving in the “Police action” in Korea.

After Tom completed his Air Force career, he was appointed by the Department of State as a Foreign Service Officer. According to Tom, “as a Foreign Service Officer, I served in many diplomatic and consular posts around the world including Germany, Jamaica, Poland, Australia, Iceland, Switzerland, and Washington, D.C.” Perhaps one of my most interesting experiences occurred while serving in Warsaw, Poland. While at the Embassy in Warsaw my assignment was as Chairman of the Board of the American School. It was during this period that I was the only American in the world to have direct contact with the People’s

Republic of China.”

Tom met his wife Joanne while attending language school in Monterey and when he retired in 1981 they moved back to the communities of Monterey/Carmel. Tom and Joanne, who have now been married for more than fifty years, continue to reside in Monterey and are the proud parents of five children and the even prouder grandparents of three teenage grandchildren.

Tom joined the Seaside Lions Club in 1983. While a member of Seaside Lions, Tom held several offices within the District including that of Club President, Zone Chair, and Region Chair. He transferred to the Carmel Host Lions in 1992, where he became Vice Governor then Governor of District 4-C6 in 1994-95.

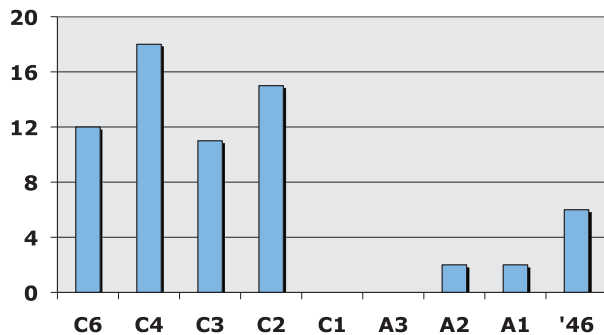
Tom has worked very hard in his role as a Lion. Not only did he serve eight years on the Board of Directors of the A. J. Robinson Foundation, a mobile screening unit owned by 4-C6, Tom also served as chairman of the MD-4 Constitution and Bylaws committee where he revised the constitution and bylaws.’

He was elected as advisor to LEF in 1995 and became a trustee in 1998. In 2001 he was elected Second Vice President, becoming President of LEF in 2004, eventually serving three terms as President. Tom has received many awards for his service to Lions and LEF. Not only has he been honored with a progressive Helen Keller Fellow and a Melvin Jones Fellow, Tom has also received a Presidential Leadership Medal, two Presidential Certificates of Appreciation, and the MD-4 Excellence Award.

Thank you Tom for all of your years of service to the Lions Eye Foundation

### Statistics and Leverage

**Number of Patients by District  
from 7/1/12-9/30/12**



**Total number of Patients ----- 66**  
**New Referrals ----- 88**  
**Actual Dollars Spent ---- \$101,020**  
**Estimated Value ----- \$1,307,000**

**LEVERAGE 12.9:1**

#### Fast Facts

- The most prevalent surgery was for cataracts
- There were 17 surgeries for retina, cornea or strabismus problems that would have cost \$25,000 - \$35,000 each
- The youngest patient was 27 years old; and the oldest was 73 years old
- There were also 50 Laser Procedures with an estimated value of \$75,000 (incl. in \$'s above)

### Acknowledgements and Thanks

#### July - September 2012

##### New and Progressive Helen Keller Fellows:

- John Benson • Deborah Berenboim • Liz Crooke
- William Downey • Kwanghyon Park • Wendal Quan
- TBD (from Hanford Breakfast Lions Club)

##### Memorial Donations (at least \$200)

- Sam French • Don Stanaway • Sally Territo-Wong
- Freedom Lions Club • Palo Alto Lions Club

##### General Donations (at least \$200)

- Las Vegas Summerlin Lions Club
- Novato Lions Club • Pleasant Hill Lions Club
- Visalia Host Lions Club

##### Donations (at least \$1,000)

- Sylvia Palmer • Palo Alto Lions Club

##### Capital Campaign

- Geneva Excelsior Lions Club

##### Total Received:

<b>General Fund</b>	<b>\$19,060</b>
<b>Restricted (Life) Fund</b>	<b>zero</b>
<b>Capital Campaign</b>	<b>\$600</b>



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***For More Information: [www.lionseyeca-nv.org](http://www.lionseyeca-nv.org)***

## ***New Executive Director Search***

As published in a previous issue Don Stanaway, our long-time Executive Director, is retiring. The LEF is looking for a new Executive Director whose duties, responsibilities, and qualifications reflect the 21<sup>st</sup> century environment. We are looking for an individual who preferably is a Lion in good standing (although an individual who commits to become a Lion will be considered), who has proven leadership experience, who has measurable success in fundraising, who has strong marketing and public relations experience, and who has strong communications skills. Responsibilities will include revenue generation, strategic planning, assuring our web site and publications have the proper marketing focus, and motivating and training our Trustees and Advisors.

This is an Independent Contractor position with compensation in the \$60,000 range plus specified expenses. If you think you are qualified and have a strong interest, we invite you to email our President, Fred Sommer, at “[sommerfred@sbcglobal.net](mailto:sommerfred@sbcglobal.net)” for a complete job description, detailed qualifications, instructions and an application. You will be asked to submit your application and supporting documents electronically no later than January 5, 2013. You will receive a response from our selection committee no later than January 14<sup>th</sup>.

If you are one of the finalists, please be available for formal interviews the week of January 14-19. We expect that a final selection will be made at our quarterly Board of Trustee meeting in Monterey on January 20<sup>th</sup>.

