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# the VISIONARY

A PUBLICATION FROM THE CENTRAL OHIO LIONS EYE BANK

# After Corneal Transplant: "A Whole New World"

This past summer cornea transplant patient Kevin Craig recalled his love of baseball when the The Central Ohio Lions Eye Bank invited him to throw out the first pitch at the Annual Eye Bank Night at the Clippers game. He used to teach T-ball to six- and seven-year-olds, back when the idea was to enjoy the game and before scores were kept and it turned into a competition, he says. He remembers seeing the Clippers play in the old west side ballpark, but never expected to find himself on the pitcher's mound at Huntington Park. Corneal transplants can certainly open up new opportunities.



**Kevin Craig** 

As Mr. Craig explains it, he "never knew what sight was until I had my surgeries." A victim of both cataracts and the cornea-distorting disease keratoconus, he was astonished to realize that he "never knew how vivid colors were" until those conditions were treated by his surgeon, Dr. Richard Erdey of Columbus.

A member of the National Guard for 35 years, Mr. Craig, who retired last November, now works in defense logistics running a program for new employee orientation. He and his wife have a 28-year-old daughter and a two-year-old granddaughter. His new vision, he says, has opened "a whole new world." It's the "best eye sight I've had in my whole life."

Are you the recipent of a cornea transplant? Go to <a href="http://www.coleb.org/share-your-story">http://www.coleb.org/share-your-story</a>/ and let us know how corneal transplantation has changed your life.

### Dear Friends,

A message from Jason Brosious, Executive Director, Central Ohio Lions Eye Bank

Dear Eye Bank Friends:

As one year ends and the new year begins, I'd like to reflect on the all the challenges and changes that happened in 2017.

January 1st, 2017, began with changes in the Eye Bank's key management positions. I took the reins following the retirement of our former Executive Director, and appointed Megan Hicks to my previous Technical Director position. In the first few months we experienced our regular inspection by the US Food and Drug Administration, as well as the Eye Bank Association of America's (EBAA's) accreditation inspection. The inspections resulted in a clean bill of health and the good news that we had once again achieved the highest level of accreditation from the EBAA. We held our annual fundraising events, including the Eye Bank Night at the Clippers where a corneal transplant patient threw out the first pitch, and our charity golf outing "Swinging for Sight", which exceeded the funds raised in the previous golf tournament. Many thanks go to the members of our Development Advisory Board for their efforts to make these events successful. We also held our annual Surgeons' Forum, and of course continued to provide education for our Eye Donor Hospital partners. Thanks to the hospitals'

support, in 2017, area eye donors provided sight restoration forover 1,150 patients, as well as advancements in research and education.

This year will bring new challenges as the Board of Trustees undertakes development of a new strategic plan. We are fortunate to have a Board that is representative of the community we serve, and very committed to the



Jason Brosious Executive Director / CEO

Eye Bank's sight-restoring mission. I look forward to continuing the fine work we are known for – and as always, appreciate the help that the Eye Bank receives from our many friends, dedicated volunteers, and generous contributors.

Wishing you all happiness and health in 2018,

Best regards, Jason

### Maintaining High Standards

The Eye Bank is regulated by the US Food and Drug Administration, and accredited by the Eye Bank Association of America. Both organizations conducted regular site inspections here in 2017. In keeping with the Eye Bank's long-standing record, both issued positive results. The Eye Bank again achieved a three-year accreditation, which is the highest rating the Eye Bank Association bestows. Kudos and appreciation to Medical Director John Stechschulte, M.D., Technical Director Megan Hicks, Quality Assurance Manager Dave Armstrong, and the Eye Bank's dedicated staff for these accomplishments.

UPCOMING EVENTS

EYE BANK NIGHT AT THE CLIPPERS Sunday, July 22, 2018 4 pm at Huntington Park SWINGING FOR SIGHT GOLF TOURNAMENT Monday, August 27, 2018

For ticket information, please contact Jason or David at 614/545-2057. Or go to www.coleb.org/events

# 2017 Events that Support Sight Restoration

Last year the Eye Bank worked to raise funds in a series of outdoor sporting events. Activities that included the Annual Eye annual golf outing, "Swinging for Sight," Eye Bank Association of America's Run for Vison, and the EyeBank Night at the Clippers. Some of the event highlights are pictured below...

# Swinging For Sight





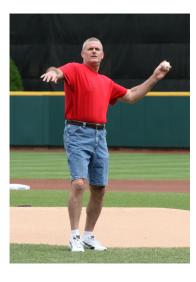








Eye Bank Night at the Clippers



# Help Us Continue Our Mission to Restore Sight

As a non-profit, 501(c)(3) organization, the Eye Bank relies on our community to help fund our vision restoration initiatives. The generous contributions we receive from financial donors help us to provide the best care for our patients.

#### 2017 EBAA Run For Vision



## Thanks to All Our Generous Supporters

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#### In Honor of

Dr. Kenneth Cahill - (by Donald Hays)

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#### In Memory of

Anthony Acquista

-(by Shirley Jacobs)

Chris

-(by Alice Heigel)

Raymond J. Zeiter

-(by O'Nise Parker)

Mike Bishop

-(by Ronald McLeish)

The Visionary is published by the Central Ohio Lions Eye Bank. Please report all changes of address to: Central Ohio Lions Eye Bank, 262 Neil Avenue, Suite 140, Columbus, OH 43215, or email at info@coleb.org.

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and enhancing research through quality eye banking services. connecting eye donors and transplant recipients, educating physicians, OUR MISSION | To restore, improve, and preserve vision by

> - Upcoming Eye Bank Events -2017: Events that Support Sight Restoration



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Donations given from July2017 through January 2018. As a non-profit organization, the Eye Bank relies on private donations to make services available to those who need us. If you would like to help us give the Gift of Sight with a contribution, please contact the Central Ohio Lions Eye Bank, 262 Neil Avenue, Suite 140, Columbus, Ohio 43215, 614.545.2057 or visit our Web site at www.DonateMyEyes.org.

ASSOCIATION OF ASSOCIATION

Columbus, OH 43215 262 Neil Avenue, Suite 140,

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