

Eye to Eye

Winter 1997

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In this issue of Eye to Eye, "Living with Glaucoma" takes a different, and special, turn. Departing from the usual format of an anonymous, first-person account, we are pleased

to present the story of Virginia Hamilton Adair, a poet who is blind from glaucoma. Mrs. Adair was awarded The Glaucoma Foundation's Second Annual Award of Merit in December. Since she lives in Claremont, California, and was unable to join us at the Tenth Annual Black and White Ball, her daughter, Kappa Waugh, accepted the award on her mother's behalf. We know that you will agree that Mrs. Adair is truly a very special woman.

Living With Glaucoma

The Glaucoma Foundation this year has the privilege to honor a very special woman, Virginia Hamilton Adair, who, at the age of 83, has published her first book of poetry, *Ants on the Melon*. Mrs. Adair has unquestionably earned this award, presented annually to an individual "whose life has been profoundly affected by glaucoma and who has risen to the challenge with courage and distinction." Over the past decade, Mrs. Adair has slowly lost her sight to glaucoma, yet has continued to write, and just this year, has published her first book of poetry. Her work has been described as "...bright, unmuddled and unaffected and unswerving," by Alice Munro, the highly esteemed short-story writer.

Mrs. Adair's life has surely provided grist for the mill of her distinctive mind. In the "Afterword" of her book, Robert Mezey, an accomplished poet in his own right, gives us a colorful glimpse into the life of an artist. Although Virginia Adair has been published in *The Atlantic Monthly*, *The New Republic* and other periodicals throughout the years, fame-and the constrictions that can accompany the limelight-has never been the reward she chose to reap. Instead, Mr. Mezey describes the life of a woman whose upbringing taught her that poetry "was an intimate and essential part of life and had nothing to do with worldly ambition or celebrity." She was encouraged by the example set by her father, Robert Browning Hamilton, a "reader and lover of poetry... and...a poet himself."

Mrs. Adair was born in 1913 in New York City and was raised largely in New Jersey. Educated at a challenging preparatory day school, and graduated from Mount Holyoke College, Mrs. Adair had excellent teachers to help hone her striking intellect and her creative ability. She then went on to Harvard-Radcliffe for her Master's Degree, where she met her husband- to-be, Douglass Adair, an eminent historian during his own teaching career at Princeton University, the College of William and Mary and Claremont Graduate School. They were married in 1937 and together raised three children. Upon their move to California, Mrs. Adair taught at local colleges, and then went on to teach and to become a full professor at California Polytechnic University in Pomona.

Virginia Hamilton Adair has experienced both love and tragedy, as her husband committed suicide in 1968. Mr. Mezey tells us that she came to terms with this incomprehensible loss by writing..."elegies, bitter and plangent by turns, tender and inconsolable." She writes in her poem, *Exit Amor*:

*And onto my living heart, again, again,
You force the dead weight of that panic and pain
Senseless, impure,*

*Which you could not contain,
Which no one can explain,
Which I must now endure.*

In the last ten years, she has also experienced the gradual, and now complete, loss of her sight. During her life she has faced such trials by writing purely for the pleasure and the art of poetry, always returning to her private life and passion. After her husband's death, Mezey writes, "She simply went on writing her verse, reading, thinking, and, as always, living with the gratitude and appetite and youthful openness to experience that she has never lost." In "Light in Wrightwood," she writes:

*Light on the threshold
of this old cabin, survivor
of earthquakes, mud slides,
ten-foot snows, where i stand
survivor of seventy summers,
winter, avarice done with
and so much still to love*

We are thankful to Mr. Mezey for his role in encouraging Mrs. Adair to publish this slice of her life's work to date.

It is our honor and our privilege to recognize a woman of such strength, passion, and artistry. It is a testament to her life and her accomplishment that this first book has not only received rave reviews, but that it was published when she reached the age of 83. The Glaucoma Foundation salutes Virginia Hamilton Adair for her life and her artistic vision, which continues on despite her blindness. The example she has set can brighten the way for us all, walking our own paths in the light, and in the dark, towards a world without blindness.

My only home is in the poems I write
Who now am exiled by my failing sight
Words vanish like a flock of birds in flight.
Coming to a crossing the train cries in the night.

"Take My Hand, Anna K."
Ants on the Melon
(c) Virginia Hamilton Adair

Doctor, I Have a Question

By Jeffrey M. Liebmann, M.D. F.A.C.S.
Member of the Board of Directors &
Member of the Scientific Advisory Board,
The Glaucoma Foundation
Clinical Associate Professor of Ophthalmology and
Assistant Director of Glaucoma Service,
New York Eye and Ear Infirmary

Q: Can you tell me if taking female hormones could have an effect on my eye pressure? I am currently taking four eye drops to control my pressure. If there is any chance that taking hormones could make my pressure harder to control, I doubt I would take them regardless of the advice of my gynecologist. Also, in the future, will there be a way for a person to check their eye pressure at home similar to the way a diabetic can check their sugar levels and people with high blood pressure can check their pressure? During the time between visits to my eye doctor, I always wonder what my pressure is and I think this leads me to be more apprehensive about these appointments.

A: The interaction of hormones and eye pressure is a complex one. Steroid medication, given topically as eyedrops or ointments or for systemic diseases as creams, pills, or inhalants, can cause eye pressure to rise. It is generally a good idea for glaucoma patients to have their eye pressure checked with any change of systemic medication, particularly medications for high blood pressure, which often contain medications which can affect eye pressure. Although many patients would feel more comfortable checking their eye pressure at home, inexpensive instrumentation to perform this test is not yet available. An important concept is that although the pressure in the eye is an important factor in glaucoma damage, accurate assessment of the status of the optic nerve to detect further glaucoma damage is more important than just checking the intraocular pressure. If the pressure is slightly high, but the nerve is unchanged, then the glaucoma is stable. If, on the other hand, the pressure is normal but the nerve continues to deteriorate, then the glaucoma is getting worse and the treatment needs to be changed.

Your question is very important to us and others with glaucoma. If you have a question about glaucoma, please write to:

Doctor, I Have a Question
c/o The Glaucoma Foundation
33 Maiden Lane
New York New York 10038
1-800-GLAUCOMA
fax: 212-504-1933
E-Mail: glaucomafdn@mindspring.com

From the Desk of the Executive Director

As this issue of Eye to Eye went to press, 1996 was drawing to a close. At The Glaucoma Foundation, it has been quite a year:

We reached more people in more ways than ever before with our message that early detection is the key to preventing blindness from glaucoma. We received television coverage in ten states, and major newspapers, from The Wall Street Journal to The Dallas Morning News, wrote about glaucoma and our efforts to eradicate the world's leading cause of preventable blindness.

We created a new nationwide radio public service announcement campaign which has just begun to hit the airwaves. One thousand radio stations are involved.

Thanks to successful fundraising efforts by members of our Board of Directors and staff, our organization continued to grow at a dramatic rate. The Tenth Anniversary Black and White Ball, reported elsewhere in this issue, brought us a net income of \$1,020,000, more than a \$200,000 increase over last year's already highly successful event.

With these additional resources, we increased our research funding threefold in 1996. Our most recent research projects, focusing on optic nerve rescue and restoration, are described elsewhere in this issue.

Our Third Annual Scientific Think Tank on Optic Nerve Rescue and Restoration yielded a new consensus among more than 40 experts from around the world that the time has come, and the tools exist, to focus on developing therapies to directly treat the optic nerve.

We are working with baseball all-star Kirby Puckett, whose career was abruptly cut short by glaucoma earlier this year. Mr. Puckett has dedicated his life to educating the public about the importance of regular eye exams, and agreed to join us at a free public screening sponsored by The Glaucoma Foundation in January 1997 in commemoration of National Glaucoma Awareness Week.

Building on a very productive year, we look forward to 1997 with great excitement. We will continue to press for more public awareness and more research funding so that we can arrest the "silent thief of sight".

The 1996 Award of Merit Honoree: Virginia Hamilton Adair

Each year The Glaucoma Foundation takes great pleasure in recognizing an individual whose life has been profoundly affected by glaucoma and who has responded to the challenge with courage and distinction. We are pleased to announce that the poet, Virginia Hamilton Adair, has been named as the second recipient of The Glaucoma Foundation Award of Merit. The Award was presented on December 12 at The Tenth Annual Black & White Ball. Since Mrs. Adair was unable to be present at the Ball, her daughter, Kappa Waugh (with John Corwin, The Foundation's Executive Director), accepted the award on her mother's behalf.

The Glaucoma Foundation participates in The American Academy of Ophthalmology's 100th Annual Meeting

The American Academy of Ophthalmology held its 100th annual meeting from October 27-31, 1996, in Chicago, Illinois. The meeting was attended by over 29,000 researchers, doctors, scientists, technical and pharmaceutical company representatives from around the world, and, of course, representatives from The Glaucoma Foundation.

The Glaucoma Foundation hosted an Informational Exhibit Booth, which was visited by hundreds of eye care professionals and interested others. John Corwin and Erin Martineau distributed information and answered questions at the booth, and attended lectures, press conferences, and meetings throughout the week. The conference allowed Mr. Corwin and Ms. Martineau ample opportunity to meet with other non-profit organizations and with potential corporate sponsors.

One of the highlights of the week was the announcement of the "Don't Be Blindsided" campaign, sponsored by Pharmacia & Upjohn and Kirby Puckett, the All-Star baseball player who was forced to retire suddenly last year because of glaucoma. This campaign is targeted to educate the public across the nation about glaucoma, and the necessity of getting tested for glaucoma.

Mr. Puckett delivered a very moving and personal testimonial to the importance of regular eye exams during a press conference which announced the campaign. Mr. Puckett, who is 35 years old, has lost the sight of one eye due to glaucoma, and is now controlling the intraocular pressure well in his other eye. He also spoke briefly at an Academy lecture on latanoprost (Xalatan), the new drug for glaucoma treatment, which is manufactured by Pharmacia & Upjohn.

On Wednesday, October 30, Mr. Corwin and Ms. Martineau attended the press conference held by the Academy of Ophthalmology, entitled, "Ophthalmology in the next century." Doctors from diverse areas of ophthalmology spoke briefly about the enormous changes in the understanding and the treatment of eye diseases over the last century. Dr. Janey Wiggs, of Tufts University Medical School, explained the changes in the field of glaucoma, once thought to be solely due to pressure, in recent history as well.

Another highlight that occurred during the Academy conference was the fall meeting of The Glaucoma Foundation's Scientific Advisory Board, which convenes twice each year to review applications for research funding. Eight new grants were recommended, totaling over \$175,000 (see opposite page). This will bring the amount of the 1996 grants awarded to close to \$275,000., which is nearly triple that of last year's awards. In addition, planning began for the Fourth Annual Scientific Think Tank on Optic Nerve Rescue and Restoration, to be held on June 6-7, 1997.

New Research Grants to study Optic Nerve and Genetics of Glaucoma

The Board of Directors of The Glaucoma Foundation has awarded more than \$175,000 in new research funds to eight scientists. These grants, which have been awarded from the fall grant review cycle, will focus on research into optic nerve protection and the molecular genetics of glaucoma.

The grants are briefly described below. For further information, please contact The Foundation.

Richard Alan Lewis, M.D., M.S.,
Cullen Eye Institute, Baylor College of Medicine, Texas

Mapping the Gene(s) for Primary Congenital Glaucoma

Dr. Lewis proposes to explore DNA samples in order to identify the chromosomal region which may cause primary congenital glaucoma. Primary congenital glaucoma is a devastating disorder that causes substantial elevation of the pressure inside the eyes of infants. Untreated, it can cause an enlargement of the eyes and blindness. The goal of this project is to find the specific chromosomal region in the DNA of a specific glaucomatous family, to explore a possible correlation (or lack thereof) with these chromosomes in other families, and to clone the responsible gene(s).

Gregory W. Maguire, Ph.D.,
Glaucoma Research Labs, University of California, San Diego

Pre- and Post-Synaptic Mechanisms of Glutamergic Neuroprotection in Glaucoma

Dr. Maguire will explore the relationship of a toxic substance called glutamate and the death of retinal ganglion cells. Glutamate is found in high concentrations in the glaucomatous eye. The proposed study will advance the biochemical understanding of glaucoma and glutamate, which will in turn lead to the development of better pharmacological tools in the management of glaucoma.

Arthur Neufeld, Ph.D.,
Bernard Becker Professor of Ophthalmology, Washington University

Nitric Oxide Synthase in the Glaucomatous Human Optic Nerve Head

In his past work, Dr. Neufeld has identified an important pathway in the glaucomatous optic nerve which generates a neurotoxic substance. This substance could be damaging to the optic nerve tissues. His project will use the techniques of molecular biology to study

the activity of this pathway so that he can determine the types of pharmacological inhibitors which could stop this damage. This work is an important step in developing drugs to protect the optic nerve in glaucoma patients.

Neville N. Osborne, Ph.D.,
Nuffield Laboratory, University of Oxford, United Kingdom

Serotonergic Agents and Beta Blockers as Neuroprotective Agents

Dr. Osborne proposes to study serotonergic agents and beta blockers as neuroprotective agents, and their potential use in reducing damage to the retina. From previous studies, it has been noted that serotonin and beta receptors may play a role in determining intraocular pressure. Dr. Osborne plans to investigate whether certain serotonergic agents and/or beta blockers may function as neuroprotective agents. These findings may be useful in determining whether a topical application of these agents will be possible, and if they will both reduce intraocular pressure and reduce damage to the retina from glaucoma.

Sara L. F. Sunden, Ph.D.,
Edward R. Madigan Laboratory, University of Illinois

Identification of the Juvenile Open Angle Glaucoma Gene via Genomic Cross-Hybridization

Juvenile open angle glaucoma is an early onset, hereditary form of glaucoma. Although scientists have narrowed the location of the responsible gene, the actual gene has not been identified yet. Dr. Sunden proposes to identify the gene and the mutations that it causes in juvenile open angle glaucoma. Identification of the mutation that causes juvenile open angle glaucoma will lead to a better understanding of how glaucoma develops, may suggest better treatments, and will help to find genes that cause other forms of glaucoma.

Professor Dr. Dr. Solon Thanos,
Research Laboratory, University of Tubingen, Germany

Studies on Cellular Changes in the Glaucomatous Retina and Axonal Regeneration in Organotypic Slices from Human Retinal Tissue

Dr. Thanos proposes to develop strategies of neuroprotective treatment in glaucoma. Specifically, he intends to examine different cellular aspects of glaucomatous changes; for example, cell destruction reversibility and cell axon regeneration. After analysis of these glaucomatous changes, Dr. Thanos plans to develop neurotrophic and neuroprotective agents. Both parts of the investigation will help to better characterize

mechanisms of glaucoma damage and to treat such glaucoma cases which already demonstrate advanced cellular and visual defects.

Michael A. Walter, Ph.D.,
Ocular Genetics Research Laboratory, University of Alberta

Analysis of Patients with Deletions of Chromosome 6p25 Associated with Ocular Dysmorphogenesis and Glaucoma

The iridogoniodysgenesis anomaly (IGDA) is an eye disorder characterized by developmental abnormalities of the iris, and of the angle where the iris and cornea meet. IGDA often results in blockage of the normal outflow of liquid in the eye, which increases the inner-eye pressure and damages the optic nerve head, in turn leading to glaucoma. Dr. Walter intends to study the responsible gene area for IGDA (6p25), to characterize the chromosomal differences present in glaucoma patients, and to construct libraries of the genes that are in the anterior segment of the eye. This research will yield information on how the eye develops and could also lead to improved and earlier treatment of patients suffering from IGDA and glaucoma.

Donald Zack, M.D., Ph.D.,
Wilmer Eye Institute, Johns Hopkins Hospital, Baltimore

Modulation of Retinal Ganglion Cell Apoptosis by Altered Expression of Apoptosis Related Genes in Transgenic Mice

Dr. Zack proposes to study a neuroprotective strategy to directly protect retinal ganglion cells from damage. Recent studies suggest that an important mechanism by which ganglion cells die in glaucoma is apoptosis, or cellular "suicide." This may explain why in some cases, even after intraocular pressure is lowered, ganglion cell damage continues. If this apoptosis pathway could be slowed down or interrupted, it is likely that ganglion cells survival could be extended. This process could lead to a novel and more effective strategy for treating glaucoma.

Let's Get Acquainted with the Medical Support Network

E. Michael Van Buskirk, M.D.

Member of the Scientific Advisory Board, The Glaucoma Foundation

Chairman, Department of Ophthalmology

Good Samaritan Hospital

Devers Eye Institute

An ophthalmologist's son, E. Michael Van Buskirk grew up in Indiana. However, he turned his sights to New England as an undergraduate and an anthropology graduate student at Harvard. After switching to a medical career and graduating from both the medical school and ophthalmology residency at Boston University, he spent two years in glaucoma research with Dr. Morton Grant. Dr. Van Buskirk's academic career began at the Hershey Medical Center of Penn State University prior to moving to Portland where he served as both Professor and Vice-Chair at the Oregon Health Sciences University. From there he took his present position as Chair of Ophthalmology at the Good Samaritan Hospital and Medical Center in Portland and holder of the Richard G. Chenoweth Chair. Dr. Van Buskirk has had numerous honors bestowed on him as a result of his leadership positions in the American Academy of Ophthalmology, National Eye Institute, and numerous editorial positions. He is currently editor-in-chief of the Journal of Glaucoma, as well as secretary of the American Glaucoma Society. In addition to 3 books and 16 book chapters, he has published well over 100 refereed papers on subjects ranging from macular disease to canine ophthalmic anatomy. Dr. Van Buskirk is best known for his pivotal role in introducing many of our currently used topical glaucoma medications into this country and alerting his ophthalmic colleagues to their potential side effects. In the best tradition of his mentor, Dr. Grant, he has continued an active participation in laboratory investigation, currently studying an animal blood flow model. Dr. Van Buskirk also represents the best clinical legacy established by Dr. Paul Chandler through his busy clinical practice, innovative surgical techniques and scholarly writing on clinical diagnoses and therapy. The Chandler Grant Society elected to have Dr. Van Buskirk delivered the 5th Chandler Grant Lecture entitled Optic Nerve Vasculature and Glaucoma.

The Second Annual Glaucoma Golf Classic Tournament Winners October 1996

The 2nd Annual Glaucoma Golf Classic was successfully and finally completed on Tuesday, October 8, at the Marriott Wind-Watch Golf Club in Hauppauge, Long Island, following 2 rain delays.

The following individuals and teams were victorious during this third attempt to participate in the tournament:

Prize Winners Lowest Net Score

Bob Malone

Second Place

Chris Byrnes

Third Place

Joe Ganning

Fourth Place

Rich Silverman

Best Team Score

Bob Malone, Fred Rizzo and Nicole Guy

Second Place

Joe Ganning, John Cleary, Peter McElynn, and Peter Sluka

Third Place

Art Byrum, Gordon Oliver, Rich Silverman, and Vic Silverman

Fourth Place

John White, Peter Sirusas, and Bob Cottrell

The Glaucoma Foundation gratefully acknowledges the patience and good humor of all our players and the support of the many individuals and organizations for their participation including

Continental Airlines, the official airline of The Glaucoma Golf Classic
Breitling USA
Marriott WindWatch

The Tenth Annual Black and White Ball

Nearly 800 attendees, including many leading figures from the Wall Street community, were on hand to celebrate the 10th anniversary of the Black & White Ball at the World Financial Center Winter Garden on Thursday, December 12, 1996. Ball Chairpersons George and Judy Aquila presided over this gala event which included an auction of hand-made papier mache masks imported from Venice and autographed by celebrities of stage, screen and television. Each guest received a smaller mask as a memento of the evening, as well as a copy of *Ants on the Melon* by this year's Glaucoma Foundation Award of Merit Winner, Virginia Hamilton Adair.

The most spectacular point of the evening came when Mr. Aquila announced that the 10th anniversary Ball had raised an unprecedented \$1 million in net income for The Glaucoma Foundation. This outstanding achievement was made possible in large part because of the seven Grand Sponsor tables which were purchased for \$50,000 each.

The Glaucoma Foundation gratefully acknowledges the many generous contributors to the Ball, the Silent Auction and the Raffle. We would also like to thank all of those who gave their time and talents to make the 1996 Black & White Ball a spectacular success. Without their dedication and efforts, this event would not have been possible.

Making Progress Toward A World Without Blindness

by Michele M. Burnett
Director of Development,
The Glaucoma Foundation

As our Executive Director, John Corwin, notes elsewhere in this issue, The Glaucoma Foundation has experienced a particularly successful year in both the programming and fundraising areas. The 1996 fundraising year was especially gratifying as more and more individuals, foundations and companies became partners in our efforts to eliminate blindness caused by glaucoma. I especially want to highlight the generous supporters of four of our fundraising efforts:

- the participants of the Black & White Ball for providing more funds than ever before that can be used to expand our research grants program and public education outreach;
- the golfers who played in the Glaucoma Golf Classic for maintaining a good sense of humor under distressing circumstances (2 rainouts and the rainiest tournament ever!!!);
- the outstanding support of The Foundation's inaugural direct mail campaign; and
- the increased interest in the Tribute Gift Program.

Your generous support makes it possible for The Glaucoma Foundation to serve glaucoma patients, potential patients, and their families and to achieve our ultimate goal of a world without blindness. Thank you for your ongoing and future support -- With your help, we will succeed!!

1996 Tribute Gift Program

The Glaucoma Foundation is pleased to acknowledge the following Tribute Gifts that were received in 1996. These gifts not only provide valuable financial support for The Foundation's many projects, but also recognize the special individuals in the lives of our donors.

Gifts Received since November 1, 1996 for Special Occasions

Kenneth Lee Cohen, M.D. from Cynthia Ann McDonald

Gifts Received since November 1, 1996 in Memory of Those Who Have Passed Away Honoring

Mirian Asnis from the Medicaid Fraud Control Unit Employees

Ruth Corwin from Mr. & Mrs. Howard Ashley; Mr. & Mrs. Theodore N. Bloch; Mary Jane & Peter DaPuzzo; Shelley & Steven Einhorn; Mary Eisinger; Lore Jarmul; Mr. & Mrs. Joseph M. La Motta; Dr. & Mrs. Maurice Luntz; Robert Ritch, M.D.; Mr. & Mrs. Bernard Ross; Linda D. Winter; and Mr. & Mrs. Abraham Tafler

Richard Deutschman from Mr. & Mrs. Walter Hemberger Fay Hertz from Sylvia Katz Francois Puschel from Goldstein, Golub, Kessler & Company Harry Schiller from Charlotte A. Braverman; Mark Braverman; and Mr. & Mrs. Robert Jacobson

Horace Volz from Mr. & Mrs. David Jaugstetter; Susan Kalb; Donna Liebowitz; William Mason School; Maturity News Service; Donna M. McHugh; and Mr. & Mrs. Richard Wickenheiser

Other Gifts Received in 1996 for Special Occasions Honoring

Janet Feinstein in honor of her 90th birthday from Ada Feinstein and Arlene & Richard Sherman

Gena Harper from Brandes Investment Partners

Leon Leidner in honor of his birthday from Sylvia Katz

Dr. & Mrs. Maurice Luntz in honor of their 40th wedding anniversary from Dr. & Mrs. Warren Appleman; Mr. & Mrs.

Stephen Cohen; Dr. & Mrs. Raymond Harrison; Alison Hoffman & Kevin Rakin; Mr. & Mrs. Syd Levy; Caryn, Antony, Bryce & Emma Loebel; Dr. & Mrs. J. Pierre Loebel; David Luntz & Kristin Staab; Melvyn, Beverly & Alix Luntz; Mr. & Mrs. Donald A. Sayles; Mr. & Mrs. Robert B. Sosnowitz; and Mr. & Mrs. Gerald Sutin

David Shore from Evelyn Rudne Margaret McK. Treacy in honor of her birthday from David R. Treacy

**Other Gifts Received in 1996
in Memory of Those Who Have Passed Away Honoring**

Emma Brockman from Sharyn Ferretti

J.T. Guice from Diversified Food Brokers

Flora Harper from Judy Lash

Pauline Rosenbaum Hill from Mr. & Mrs. Patrick McKnight

Mary Hoffer from Mr. & Mrs. Sheldon M. Siegel

John Jencks from Georgetown County South Carolina

Kathryn Lane from Mildred Reilly

Mary Lasner from Al Winter

Mathilde Lawson from Mr. and Mrs. Walter Bryggman; Dick Iverson; and Merrill Farms

Paul Lenzi from Liz Fisher; George Peters & Family; and Phil Tullman & Family

Irving Levy from Mr. & Mrs. Sheldon M. Siegel

Anna Luback from Wanda Drahos

Robert D. Martin from Mr. & Mrs. Sheldon M. Siegel

Minnie McIntyre from Karen Winston

Jeffrey David Nachshow from UNTS Point W.P.C.P.

Shirley Wright Perrow from Mr. & Mrs. M.G. Deacon, Jr.

Marie T. Prass from Natalie T. Friedlander

Bydra Prize from the Employees of Empire Medicare Services,
Telephone Customer Service Division

Roy Rubio from Terry Conner, Sears Roebuck & Co.

Harry Schiller from Alison & Dean Burckhardt; Joan, Geoffrey
& Heidi Clements; Mr. & Mrs. Martin Dembitz; Belle Fried,
Ph.D.; Lois R. Gold; Sheila & Don Leventhal; Mr. & Mrs.
Vernon V. Scholar; Wendy Tannenbaum; and Diane & Dan
Tietelbaum

Eleanor C. Suarez from Sharyn Ferretti

Miriam Wolf from David & Nancy Fowler

Marion Hatton Worth from Sharyn Ferretti

To Receive a Tribute Gift Program Package or to make a Tribute Gift, please call The
Foundation's Development Office at (212) 504-1902 or 1-800-GLAUCOMA.

The Readers' Corner

Dear Mr. Corwin,

I was diagnosed six weeks after my birth on January 23, 1967 of congenital glaucoma. In my first year of life, I had three major operations. Dr. John Crawford performed the surgery; he successfully was able to save my left eye however my right eye was majorly damaged due to the congenital glaucoma.

I would like to get involved in starting my own group and also writing to other people for support and just letting people know that I would like to get in contact with them.

Please forward my name to anyone who is interested in contacting me. My addresses are:

Nancy Yutronkie	or	Nancy Yutronkie
99 Willow Street		P.O. Box 393
Waterloo, Ontario,		Collingwood, Ontario,
Canada N2J 1W3		Canada, L9Y 3Z7
(519) 745-3635		(705) 446-2107
Nancy Yutronkie		
<i>Ontario, Canada</i>		

We invite all of our readers to comment, respond or state their views about glaucoma, the newsletter, or The Glaucoma Foundation in "The Readers' Corner." Letters can be published anonymously if desired. We are eager to hear what you think about what we are doing and hope to hear from you soon!