

# BUCKEYE OPHTHALMOLOGY



Betty has had eye problems since birth, but never let it hold her back...



Wexner  
Medical  
Center

Betty Stover

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“I have recommended OSU to family and friends. As far as I’m concerned, if you have an eye condition, you really ought to go see someone at the Havener Eye Institute. They’ll get you diagnosed and get you to the right person. Maybe then, you can go back to your community and find a doctor there to continue your care, but you really need to have your first evaluation at the Institute.”



## NEW WEBSITE

At the Havener Eye Institute, we are continually searching for ways to improve our patients' experience, even online. So, we have upgraded our entire website to be more user-friendly for our visitors.

This new version streamlines the homepage to increase the ease of use for patients, staff, future medical students, residents, and benefactors, making sure to integrate information on eye conditions, faculty and patient information videos, and an appointment request section. The new section, "Eye Conditions," provides patients with the latest information on common eye conditions.

Just one more example of how the Havener Eye Institute is patient focused.



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2012 BuckEYE Golf Classic was a success thanks to new coach Urban Meyer.



## Table of Contents

- 1-2  
2012 BuckEYE Golf Classic
- 3-4  
Betty Stover  
Fact or Fiction with Dr. Hendershot
- 5-6  
Pythian Sisters Philanthropic Contribution To Research  
Wilbur Neil, MD  
Patient Story: Dave Thomas
- 7-8  
Warner and Patti Blow Research Commitment  
Alumni Support ARVO Grand Rounds  
Vision Runs in the Family
- 9-10  
New Residents  
Congratulations Graduates  
ARVO 2012
- 11-12  
Ophthalmology International Missions: Ghana  
Dr. Cloud Goes to Washington  
Values in Action Award

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## 2012 BuckEYE Golf Classic



An early morning rain did not dampen the spirit of the attendees at the 2012 BuckEYE Golf Classic. The 7th Annual golf outing was held at the beautiful OSU Scarlet Golf course, one of the top collegiate courses in the nation. It was difficult to say if the charity golfers were more eager to start playing the challenging course or to meet this year's special guest, OSU Football Coach Urban Meyer.

Coach Meyer with Classic winners Don Davis, Kacy Kern, Roy Whipple, and Andy Connell





Second place winners: Terry Walker  
Dr. Amit Tandon, Gary Lelli Jr., and  
Scott Buckley (Not Pictured)

This year's tournament winners were Roy Whipple, Kacy Kern, Andy Connell, and Don Davis.

"I've been providing maintenance on the ophthalmic equipment for the department since 1986," said Roy Whipple. "This is my seventh year participating in the golf outing. It felt great to win, but it felt better to give back."

"I really enjoyed the Golf Outing," said William Terrell, MD. "As a current resident, I think that it is a great time to meet department alumni and share stories. Funds raised from this outing directly support resident education, even helping with the most recent acquisition of the EYESI surgical simulator. After graduation, I plan on joining the outing as an alumnus, to meet with old friends and make new ones, all for a good cause."

Their enthusiasm was not unwarranted, Coach Urban comes to Ohio State with the highest winning percentage among all active coaches and two National Championships. He is an Ohio native and an alumnus of the University of Cincinnati and The Ohio State University.

At the BuckEYE Golf Classic, Coach Meyer posed for photos with each of the attendees and signed footballs. He ultimately helped to raise over \$50,000 to support the OSU Ophthalmology Residency Program.

"Driving up to the course, the dreary weather looked like it would put quite the damper on the day," said Alan Letson, MD, Residency Program Director, "but everyone was a good sport and Urban Meyer was a phenomenal guest. Taking the time to not only take a photo with participants, but also sign footballs puts him pretty high in my book. I'm looking forward to seeing what he and the Buckeyes do this year!"

Over the past seven years, the BuckEYE Golf Classic has provided ophthalmology residents with textbooks and equipment. This year, proceeds will go toward purchasing the retinal surgery software and hardware upgrades to our new EYESI Surgical Simulator. This module permits residents to practice retinal surgery in a 3D, physics-based, virtual environment.

Thanks to everyone who made this important event a success.

Ophthalmology Residents Drs. William Terrell and  
Bryan Costin with alumni Dr. Vishal Verma, and  
resident Dr. Dominic Buzzacco.

Classic sponsor Dr. Ann Koval



Ophthalmology Residents Drs. Rachel Reem  
and Leah Vaccarella



# Betty Stover



Betty with her sister Peggy

Growing up on a farm outside of New Lexington with nine siblings, Betty Stover was just six weeks old when her parents discovered that she had a rare eye condition, congenital glaucoma. She was left legally blind in both eyes.

"I was fortunate to have excellent care since the very beginning," said Betty who has been coming to OSU since she was an infant.

At age 10, after one of her many surgeries, Betty developed an eye infection. This infection led to the loss of her right eye and the need for a prosthetic eye.

Betty's father was determined that she would have a normal life, including going to a normal school. Despite her visual difficulties and the lack of adaptive equipment available, Betty was always an A student. It was not easy. She had to walk up to the blackboard to read whatever the teacher had written. She quickly learned that if she memorized the information, she didn't have to make as many trips to the board.

As a freshman in high school, she was very unwilling to walk up in the front of the class and stand next to the teacher. She learned to decipher what was being written on the board by watching the teacher's hand movements.

"Even though I had visual impairment, I didn't really understand that I had an impairment," said Betty. "I never saw myself as handicapped. I just went to Columbus to the doctor a lot, but I don't recall that it was such a big deal to me."

BEFORE K-PRO: Magnification level Betty needed



AFTER K-PRO: Magnification level with which Betty can easily read

After 25 years at Perry County Children's Services Agency, she had to retire because of a very severe change in her vision. Paul Weber, MD, who has been taking care of Betty's glaucoma for years, sent Betty to Thomas Mauger, MD to see if she was a candidate for a procedure called a Keratoprosthesis (K-Pro). A K-Pro is a combination of man-made/artificial cornea and a donor tissue.

"Dr. Weber has always been very careful about what he would recommend for me," said Betty, "never wanting to do anything that could possibly damage my remaining sight. I had gone totally, clinically blind. I had a little usable vision."

She knew that the K-Pro surgery had risks, including a complete loss of vision, but she had gotten to the point where she was injuring herself, running into furniture and walls. She was afraid of falling and almost felt that she did not have a lot to lose. Ultimately, she made the decision to do the surgery. After the surgery, Betty was surprised by the immediate improvement to her vision.



Betty and her sister enjoying the view of campus from the top of the Thompson library

"I said, 'Dr. Mauger I can see, I can see the lights!' Dr. Mauger asked, 'How many fingers am I holding up?' I just reached up and took his hand and said, 'you're holding two fingers up!' I wish you could have seen his face. He was smiling from ear to ear. He was as happy for me as I was for myself."

Before the surgery, she had trouble reading and using a computer. She had utilized low vision aids for years to help her read and write. The magnification kept getting bigger and bigger, until she was only seeing about two words on a screen the size of a television. Now, she still has the vision aids to help write, but she requires very little magnification to read.

"I am no longer isolated. I can go to the grocery store by myself, I don't have to have anyone go with me. I mean, I can't drive, but they drop me off and I can shop by myself. I feel like I'm more a part of society. I can see facial expressions and reactions which before I couldn't see. Since the surgery, I can get back to doing some of things I did before. I've even joined a reading circle."

Betty has been married 37 years, has one son and two grandchildren, ages 14 and 11.

"Dr. Weber will tell you that I was profoundly visually impaired before, but I never let it stop me," said Betty. "I have traveled. I've been to Israel, Nova Scotia, out West, all over the East Coast, and Florida countless times. I've done a lot in my life. And, in my opinion, I have been tremendously blessed with the best doctors in the nation."

## Fact or Fiction with Dr. Hendershot

**Sleeping in contacts will harm your eyes...**

**FACT:** "Just wearing contacts makes you nine times more likely to get an eye infection. You don't need to wear them at night. It's healthier to take them out and let your eyes breathe a little better."

**Working at a computer screen is harmful to your eyes...**

**FICTION:** "It's not going to do any damage to your eyes. It can cause headaches and eye strain, but nothing permanent. The average person blinks between 12 and 16 times a minute. But if you watch a person reading or studying, they'll only blink 2 to 3 or 4 times a minute, so it can also dry out your eyes."

**Eating carrots is beneficial for your eyes...**

**FACT:** "Eating carrots technically does help your eyes because the beta-carotene is converted to vitamin A, which is essential for eye health. When people ask about carrots or fish or anything like that, I inform them that if you eat a balanced diet of fresh fruits, fresh vegetables, protein, and dairy it's all good for your eyes just like it is for the rest of your body."

Andrew Hendershot, MD



## Pythian Sisters Contribution To Research



Dr. Christoforidis accepts donation from Miriam on behalf of the Pythian Sisters



Fellow Dr. Cedric Pratt and Dr. Christoforidis performing research

Miriam Mikesell always knew the importance of eye care and researching new treatment options. Her mother, husband, and great uncle all had Age-Related Macular Degeneration (AMD), a sight-stealing condition affecting central vision. With her husband, she had made many trips to Ohio State since the early '90s to see Drs. Paul Weber and Frederick Davidorf.

When she was elected as the Grand Chief of the Pythian Sisters—an international sisterhood—and was asked to choose an altruistic project, she knew that it would be AMD research.

"AMD runs in my family, and the OSU doctors were so good to treat Bob, my late husband," said Miriam. "They were

kind and helpful. When it was time for me to find a project, eye research was the first thing that came to mind."

Together, the Pythian Sisters were able to raise \$10,000 to support the research of John Christoforidis, MD.

Dr. Christoforidis has been working on a series of projects over the last two years evaluating medications that are used to treat AMD; primarily Avastin®, Eyelea®, and Lucentis®. One important question was what happens to these agents once they are in the blood after a surgical procedure.

"We simply don't have any way to track it," said Dr. Christoforidis. "So, I went to the OSU College of Pharmacy and asked

them what I would need to track the medication after an intravitreal injection. They recommended an ELISA Test Kit which cost close to \$20,000. The Pythian Sisters donation was invaluable, and the project could not have been completed without them."

The project was completed utilizing an animal model and was very successful. Dr. Christoforidis has submitted a manuscript for publication in a peer-reviewed journal with his results.

"I can name you sister after sister that's affected with eye disease," said Miriam. "We were very fortunate to be able to support Dr. Christoforidis' important research. We're grateful to be able to help make a difference."



## Alumni Wilbur Neil Donates Equipment

Dr. Neil, a recently retired general ophthalmologist from Terre Haute, IN, had an interesting path to ophthalmology.

He was an undergraduate history major and a salesman with a steel corporation in Pittsburgh until the Air Force beckoned. In the service, he spent a year in Japan on a mountaintop and during that time he read about 50 books and philosophized with fellow officers. Finally, he thought he should get into medicine.

Dr. Neil spent two years at the Ohio State University completing prerequisites for medical school. As a medical student, he considered all areas

of medicine before he decided on ophthalmology. It appealed to him not only because it was academic and challenging, but also because it required very precise surgery. He remained at Ohio State for residency and felt fortunate to train with William Havener, M.D.

"Dr. Havener was an interesting guy," commented Dr. Neil. "When I chose Ohio State, there really were only three full-time physicians on staff. Some of the doctors outside said 'That's a one man show down there, I wouldn't go there because if something happens to Havener, forget it.' Now, there are 25 ophthalmologists at OSU."

Dr. Neil remembers his residency as very tough and that Dr. Havener could

"put some residents out-to-dry pretty fast." Dr. Havener really liked his residents to work hard and progress.

"Dr. Havener was one of the best socratic teachers that I've ever been around," said Dr. Neil. "But, there are many, many odd stories about him, because he marched to the beat of his own drum, that's for sure. He had his yearly trek out to his farm where he let his beard grow and wrote books."

Dr. Neil's appreciation for his excellent training at the Havener Eye Institute inspired him to donate equipment from his former ophthalmology practice to further the educational mission of the program he is proud to call his Alma Mater.

# Patient Story: Dave Thomas

"We are so grateful to you and tell everyone what a Godsend you were to us; an angel in disguise. I cannot believe you would take the time to do research and pass it on to the other doctors. Not many people would have bothered following us."  
- Dave and Sue Thomas

Dave Thomas was out for an early walk enjoying the beautiful June weather, when he began experiencing what he thought was shingles. His family doctor put him on medication to clear up the shingles but in that same week, Dave gained 20 pounds, mostly fluid in his abdomen. One night, Dave went to bed noticing some "little gold specks" in his eye and woke up in the morning with a black spot on the right side of his eye.

Dave's wife, Sue, got him in to see an eye doctor right away, who referred them to a retina specialist. From there, they were referred to Colleen Cebulla, MD at the Havener Eye Institute for what they had been told might be a malignant tumor.

Dr. Cebulla ran numerous tests on Dave and concluded that it was not a tumor, but water on the eye. She also instructed them to go to the OSU Emergency Room if they noticed any more rapid weight gain.

The next day, the symptoms worsened and they returned to OSU's Emergency Department.

Dave spent the next week undergoing "every test in every department".

Just when they were beginning to lose heart, Dr. Cebulla stopped by the hospital. She had been researching his symptoms and thought it might be Capillary Leak Syndrome (CLS). She then contacted Dave's doctor at the hospital and by Saturday evening they had concluded that it was CLS, a condition so rare that there have only been 150 documented cases.

"I don't know what the doctors' next step would have been had Dr. Cebulla not come in there that night," said Sue. "When Dave was first diagnosed with the malignant tumor I told him, 'Now we're not going to worry about this because I have a feeling this might be an omen for us to get to Columbus to get some better help.'"

Dr. Cebulla is now working to get Dave seen by Dr. Kirk Druey, an expert on CLS at the National Institute of Health.

"Dr. Cebulla has been the solution to our problem, and has been our salvation," said Sue. "She has just been so good about following through on this and trying to help us. Truly, she is an angel in disguise"

Dr. Cebulla with Dave & Sue Thomas



## Diabetic? You may be eligible for a new study

The National Eye Institute is sponsoring a clinical trial to evaluate three different anti-VEGF injections for the treatment of Diabetic Macular Edema (DME).

The retina is a thin layer of tissue that lines the back of your eye. It is nourished by blood vessels that become affected by diabetes. DME is the term used for swelling in the small central part of the retina used for sharp straight-ahead vision due to diabetes.

Injections into the eye of drugs that block a substance called vascular endothelial growth factor ("anti-VEGF drugs") have been used to treat DME because abnormal levels of VEGF can be produced by a retina affected by diabetes. These abnormal levels of VEGF can cause leakage of fluid from retinal blood vessels, which can cause swelling of the retina and potentially vision loss. There are several anti-VEGF drugs. The three drugs being studied are called Lucentis® (ranibizumab), Eylea® (aflibercept), and Avastin® (bevacizumab).

FOR MORE INFORMATION:

Call Jill Salerno 614-652-2620 or email [Jill.Salerno@osumc.edu](mailto:Jill.Salerno@osumc.edu).



## Warner and Patti Blow New Research Commitment

For over fifteen years, Patti and Warner Blow have been active supporters of eye cancer research. They funded The Patti Blow Research Lab, a state-of-the-art molecular genetics research facility.

Headed by Frederick Davidorf, MD and Mohamed Abdel-Rahman, MD, PhD, the Patti Blow Research Lab focuses on the genetic pathways involved in malignant melanoma.

“Through the philanthropy of Patti and Warner,” said Dr. Davidorf, “our researchers have located a gene associated with a familial cancer syndrome which includes eye melanoma. This will help identify at-risk family members.”

The understanding of genes and molecular genetic pathways in cancer

is essential in creating new cancer treatments.

In response to this need, the Blows have pledged an additional \$750,000 to support the genetics lab; bringing their total gift to over \$2.25 million. This will be used to fund studies into the genetic pathways involved in cancer growth. It will also help develop target therapies to control and prevent metastatic disease in eye melanoma.

With the support of Warner and Patti, the OSU Ocular Melanoma Group has established a national and international reputation. This will lead to new treatment strategies identified at Ohio State helping tumor patients far beyond our Ohio borders. We are indebted to the Blows for their continued generosity.



TOP: Warner & Patti Blow, MIDDLE: The Patti Blow Research Lab BOTTOM: Post-doctoral student Brandon Massengill with Drs. Mohamed Abdel-Rahman, Frederick Davidorf, and Getachew Boru

## Alumni Support ARVO Grand Rounds



Fred Kapetansky



Marilyn Huheey

Over the years, Fred Kapetansky, MD and Marilyn Huheey, MD have been a conduit for relaying the latest medical advances presented at the Association for Research and Vision in Ophthalmology (ARVO) Annual Meeting.

Together, they coordinate a yearly Grand Rounds where the latest information is relayed to physicians, medical students, and faculty members. This Grand Rounds is always well attended because of the personal touch provided by both doctors.

Dr. Huheey is always so energetic in her yearly ARVO attire and Dr. Kapetansky captivates attendees with his unique and insightful take on the meeting.

Both Dr. Kapetansky and Dr. Huheey were happy to announce the unprecedented number of OSU residents, medical students, and graduate students that have presented at ARVO recently. This is a positive sign about the value of our research and its place in the future of medicine.

*(See Page 10 for the list of ARVO posters)*

# Vision Runs in the Family

Lindsay Adam, MD, Megan Chambers, MD, and Abbe Craven, MD could have chosen a residency program anywhere in the country but decided on the Havener Eye Institute, not because of their fathers' association with the program, but because of its renowned reputation, challenging curriculum, and innovative technology.

All three grew up visiting their fathers' offices and getting a first hand look at the real life of an ophthalmologist.

"On those mornings, going with my Dad to see the post-op patients, I saw how important sight is to people and how appreciative they are for even a little vision that you can help save for them," said Megan.

Even though they each grew up with an ophthalmologist as a role model, they were ready to consider other specialties when they began medical school.

"I just really loved medicine in general," said Abbe. "I considered other things. I wanted to make sure that it was totally ophthalmology, but it became pretty clear that this is what I wanted to do. That's the beauty of it. I think that it is very possible that I would have ended up here anyway even if my dad had not been an ophthalmologist."

Megan grew up surrounded by medicine, with her father and brother as ophthalmologists and a mother as a nurse. She says that, "Dinner conversations at home became pretty entertaining...although, maybe really nerdy to the outside world."

"Of course I was influenced by my family," said Megan. "However, I went in to medical school with an open mind. It wasn't until I had my rotation my fourth year here at Ohio State that I really solidified my desire to go into ophthalmology. People would ask 'why ophthalmology, its just a little part of the body?' But, I quickly learned this little part of the body affects the patient's whole life."

Lindsay, who had a similar experience, says she decided to work in the medical field while in high school. Ophthalmology was always in the back of her mind.

"During my senior year of undergrad I was able to travel to Ghana with my father on a mission trip," said Lindsay. "Although I was not able to help with seeing patients or surgery, I saw how much of a difference our short stay made for these people. I wanted to be able to make that kind of difference too. It wasn't until my ophthalmology rotation during my fourth year of medical school that my decision was made."

Now, as residents, they face the difficult decision whether to start practicing right away or complete a fellowship.

"I'm still in the process of deciding," says Lindsay. "I like variety, so comprehensive ophthalmology is appealing to me, but after my pediatric ophthalmology rotation, I feel torn. I think it's incredible that in pediatrics there is such a short time frame to act, ultimately affecting the rest of the child's life. It's amazing to be able to have such a positive impact on a person."

"Everyone says 'Oh, ophthalmology is just dealing with the eye, this tiny little thing'. But really it is so vast, you could go anywhere and specialize in any different part of the eye which is also really appealing. I think that's what this year will be more about for me, trying to figure out which direction I'd like to go in", said Abbe.

Luckily, these doctors still have some time to explore their options before making a definite decision.

"Really and truly, Ohio State is a great residency program," said Megan. "There are a lot of great doctors that are really caring, able to guide you, and answer your questions; like a parent. But Abbe, Lindsay, and I are blessed with both."

Drs. Dave Adam and Lindsay Adam



Drs. Paul Craven and Abbe Craven

Drs. Christopher Chambers, Megan Chambers, and Robert Chambers



## New Residents



**J. Bradley Allen, MD**  
BS: University of Georgia  
MD: Medical College of Georgia



**Elaine Binkley, MD**  
BS: Dennison University  
MD: The Ohio State University



**Sarah Hilkert, MD**  
BS: University of Notre Dame  
MD: The Ohio State University



**Mark Hill, MD**  
BS: Weber State University  
MD: University of Utah



**Allison Hinko, MD**  
BS: Northwestern University  
MD: University of Toledo



**Julia Reid, MD**  
BS: Colgate University  
MD: New York Medical College



## Congratulations Graduates

"Now that I have started my fellowship, I have really come to appreciate the fantastic education I received during my residency. I feel so well prepared and having such a great foundation allows me to spend my pediatric ophthalmology fellowship really concentrating on the nuances." - Palak Wall, MD

Palak Wall, MD matched at the Cleveland Clinic to complete a pediatric ophthalmology fellowship.

Leah Vaccarella, MD will remain at the Havener Eye Institute to complete a fellowship in comprehensive ophthalmology.

Bryan Costin, MD, is headed to the Cleveland Clinic to complete an oculoplastics fellowship.

Adam Cloud, MD will complete a glaucoma fellowship at the Havener Eye Institute.

Dominic Buzzacco, MD will remain in Columbus to complete a retina fellowship.

Irene Tung, MD matched at Duke University to complete a pediatric ophthalmology fellowship.



### CHICAGO AAO ALUMNI RECEPTION

November 10, 2012 • 5:30-7:30pm  
343 North Michigan Avenue

Join us during the AAO's annual meeting for a special chocolate & wine tasting at Fannie May Chocolates.

RSVP TO CHRISTINA STETSON AT (614) 293-8760

"Drug Loaded Microparticles For Long-term Sustained Release Of Anti-VEGF Therapies In Age-related Macular Degeneration." Leilei Zhang, Cynthia J. Roberts, Alan D. Letson, Ronald X. Xu.

"Incidence of Sterile Endophthalmitis Related to Intravitreal Injections of Bevacizumab and Ranizumab: A Retrospective Review." Sireesha A. Clark, Alan D. Letson.

"Presence of Pigment Epithelial Detachment in Central Serous Chorioretinopathy using High Definition Optical Coherence Tomography." Kristen Burwick, Michael Wells.

"Influence of Internal Pressure and Distance from Air Nozzle on Maximum Deformation Depth under an Air Puff of Pig Corneas." Sue Shiao, Ashraf M. Mahmoud, Jun Liu, David Lee, Kimberly Metzler, Chris Minning, Cynthia J. Roberts.

"Ultrasonic Measurement of Human Scleral Strains under Physiological Loadings." Junhua Tang, Jun Liu.

"Serum Levels Of Intravitreally Placed I-124 Bevacizumab And I-124 Ranibizumab In A Rabbit Model Following Lensectomy, Vitrectomy And No Surgery." Angela Jiang, Jillian Wang, Cedric Pratt, Michelle Carlton, George Hinkle, Michael Knopp, John Christoforidis.

"The Effect Of Intravitreal Bevacizumab And Ranibizumab On Cutaneous Tensile Strength During Wound Healing." Jillian Wang, Angela Jiang, James Willard, Cedric Pratt, Sashwati Roy, Heather Powell, John Christoforidis.

"The Role of Programmed Cell Death 4 in the Pathogenesis of Uveal Melanoma." Tiffany L. Wang, Frederick H. Davidorf, Mohamed H. Abdel-Rahman.

"Candidate Gene Testing In Uveal Melanoma Patients With Relative High-risk For Hereditary Cancer Predisposition." Mohamed H. Abdel-Rahman, Robert Pilski, Colleen M. Cebulla, Andrew W. Stacey, James B. Massengill, Frederick H. Davidorf.

"Effect of Diabetes on Central Corneal Thickness, Hysteresis and Optic Nerve Parameters." Anna Momont, David Reed, Paul Baciu, Munira Hussain, Roni Shtein, Ashraf Mahmoud, Cynthia Roberts, Rodica Pop-Busui, Sayoko Moroi.

"Long-term Outcomes Of Ocular Melanoma Patients Treated With Custom-made Nag Plaques For 125I Brachytherapy ." Rachel E. Reem, Mersiha Hadziahmetovic, Douglas Martin, Frederick H. Davidorf, Ashraf M. Mahmoud, Colleen M. Cebulla.

"An Epidemiologic Study of Non-ocular Surgical Wound Healing Outcomes in Exudative Macular Degeneration Patients Receiving Intravitreal VEGF Inhibitors." Honey H. Herce, Angela Jiang, Jillian Wang, Sashwati Roy, John Christoforidis.

"Tomographic Detection of Keratoconus by Combining Anterior, Posterior, and Pachymetric Versions of The Cone Location and Magnitude Index (CLMI)." Ashraf M. Mahmoud, Maria X. Nunez, Claudia M. Blanco, Douglas D. Koch, Li Wang, Mitchell P. Weikert, Beatrice E. Frueh, Christoph Tappeiner, Cynthia J. Roberts.

"Pharmacokinetic Properties Of Intravitreally Placed I-124 Radiolabeled Bevacizumab And Ranibizumab After Vitrectomy And Lensectomy In A Rabbit Model." John B. Christoforidis, Michelle Carlton, Jillian Wang, Angela Jiang, Cedric Pratt, George Hinkle, Michael Knopp.

"Macrophage Polarization In Experimental Murine Retinal Detachment." Stephen Rasiah, Tiffany Wang, Bongsu Kim, Amanda Bingham, Mohamed H. Abdel-Rahman, Andy J. Fischer, Colleen M. Cebulla.

"Up-regulation of Retinal  $\alpha$ A-crystallin in Experimental Murine Retinal Detachment." Rania Kusibati, Stephen Rasiah, Bongsu Kim, Severin Pouly, Jiaxi Ding, Sanjoy K. Bhattacharya, Colleen M. Cebulla.

"Influence of Corneal Diameter on GAT Readings and Corneal Inflation." Benjamin Cruz Perez, Richard T. Hart, Paul A. Weber, Jun Liu.

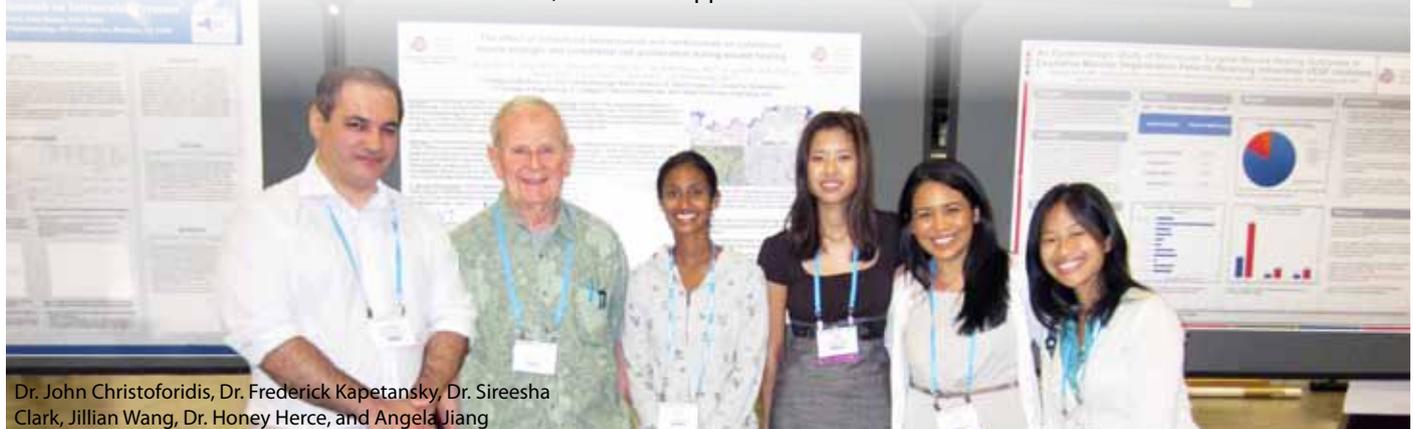
"Initial Results on the Correlation between Corneal Acoustic Impedance and Tonometry Errors in Enucleated Human Eyes." Jun Liu, Junhua Tang, Xueliang Pan, Paul A. Weber.

"Histopathology of Optic Nerve Pit associated Maculopathy." William D. Terrell, Frederick Davidorf, John Christoforidis.

"Retinal MMP12/MMP13 And TIMP1/ TIMP2 Expression In Experimental Murine Retinal Detachment." Colleen M. Cebulla, Bongsu Kim, Tiffany Wang, Severin Pouly, Mohamed Abdel-Rahman, Andy J. Fischer.

"Biomechanical Response of Paired Donor Corneas to An Air Puff: Isolated Cornea vs Intact Whole Globe." Kimberly Metzler, Ashraf M. Mahmoud, Jun Liu, David Lee, Sue J. Shiao, Cynthia J. Roberts.

"Conservation of Arclength in Keratoconic and Normal Corneas with Air Puff Induced Deformation." Cynthia Roberts, Ashraf Mahmoud, Jun Liu, Zarina Sharalaya, Thomas Mauger, Richard Lembach, Andrew Hendershot, Rebecca Kuennen, Stephen Klyce.



Dr. John Christoforidis, Dr. Frederick Kapetansky, Dr. Sireesha Clark, Jillian Wang, Dr. Honey Herce, and Angela Jiang

# Ophthalmology International Missions: Ghana

"It was a privilege to make the long journey to help people literally see again." Rachel Reem, MD

"There are people all over the world who need our help, and I think international missions remind us to look beyond the details of our own lives and remember why we became physicians", Rachel Reem, MD, a third year resident stated after returning from a medical mission in Akroso, Ghana.

In late February, she had traveled to the eastern region of impoverished African country with Thomas Mauger, MD and Lena Chheda, MD. During their short five day stay in Ghana, the three doctors were able to help over eighty patients. Dr. Reem could not help but be impressed.

"These patients, even though there was a language barrier, for the most part stayed incredibly still throughout the surgeries with only local anesthesia," said Dr. Reem.

Many of the patients seen had mature cataracts. The doctors even had to perform a few small incision extracapsular cataract surgeries which are quite rare in the U.S. these days.

"While I was helping patients with their cataracts, it is humbling to consider how much they taught me. They were so generous in their interactions with us, and very grateful. I think of them sometimes, and wonder how they're doing, and if they were able to go back to the work that they did before their cataracts got too dense for them to see." Since returning to the States, Rachel feels her world has become smaller.

She's seen a handful of patients from Ghana during her pediatric ophthalmology rotation and in the free clinic.

"It has been nice to use a few words of Twi, the local language, to bond with these patients," said Dr. Reem. "It feels like Ghana is a less distant place and that helps me understand some of my patients better."

Dr. Reem considers international mission trips "very valuable, thought-provoking experiences". Operating in Ghana made her appreciate all of the resources that she is use to taking for granted like high-quality, disposable surgical gloves. It also gave her a renewed respect for her vocation.

"We ophthalmologists have trained for many years in a very challenging and technical field of work," said Dr. Reem. "Sometimes it's easy to forget that we have a profound and beautiful gift that we can give to our patients: the gift of sight."



Dr. Thomas Mauger overseeing Dr. Rachel Reem in the Ghana surgery room

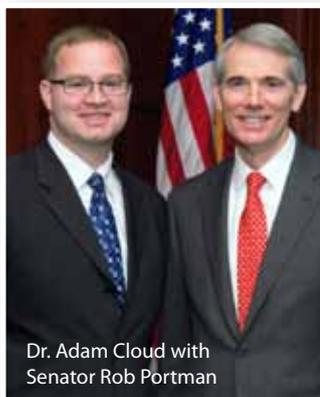


A group of Ghana patients waiting to be seen in the clinic



## Dr. Cloud Goes to Washington

As part of the American Academy of Ophthalmology's Advocacy Ambassador Program, the Ohio Ophthalmological Society provided scholarships for three residents to attend the Academy's Congressional Advocacy Day and Mid-Year Forum.



Dr. Adam Cloud with Senator Rob Portman

Adam Cloud, MD, a third-year resident at The Havener Eye Institute, was one of these scholarship recipients. While in Washington D.C., the residents actively participated in visits to the Ohio Congressional Delegation offices, attended updates on current policy issues and were part of the Great Lakes breakout session at the Council meeting.

After returning from his trip, Adam Cloud, MD stated "I think the big take home was that we do have the power to influence the legislative process and if we all work as a group then we have a lot more push and say in how our lives are going to be governed... It showed me that there is the opportunity for all of us to be involved."

## BRAVO! Values in Action Award

Since September 2010, Havener Eye Institute has worked in conjunction with the Columbus Medical Association's Physicians Free Clinic to recruit physicians, technicians, and volunteers to provide vision care services for uninsured residents living below the Federal Poverty Guidelines.

In May 2012, the BRAVO! Values in Action Award was presented to these free clinic volunteers.

On behalf of these volunteers, Department Chairman, Thomas Mauger, MD, accepted the award presented by Steve Gabbe, MD, Wexner Medical Center Senior VP.

The BRAVO! Values in Action Award is a quarterly award that allows The Wexner Medical Center to recognize it's employees for actions and behaviors that bring it's values to life. If not for these physicians and employees showing empathy and compassion, many of our most needy Ohio citizens would not receive the eye care that they desperately need.



TOP: Drs. Mauger and Gabbe  
BOTTOM: Ophthalmology Free Clinic Coordinators, Denise Doneski and George Wintringer



**SPECIAL GUEST: STEVE CHARLES, MD**



THURSDAY, OCTOBER 11, 2012  
5:30-7:30pm

Join us for a complimentary CME & dinner event at OSU Eye & Ear Institute (915 Olentangy River Rd.) in the 3rd floor conference room. The 1.0 hour CME lecture will be presented by Steve Charles, MD, a retina specialist from Memphis, TN.

RSVP at (614) 293-8760 or email [Christina.Stetson@osumc.edu](mailto:Christina.Stetson@osumc.edu)

Learn more, visit us online at: [www.eye.osu.edu](http://www.eye.osu.edu)



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Create a better tomorrow by making a plan to support the Havener Eye Institute today. You can direct your gift to any fund or focus. You can provide educational resources for the best ophthalmic training possible. Or, you can support research that improves people's eye health and changes lives. Your gift will help prepare our next generation of ophthalmologists and inspire answers that change the face of medicine.

If you are interested in making a Planned Gift, contact (614) 293-6980.

