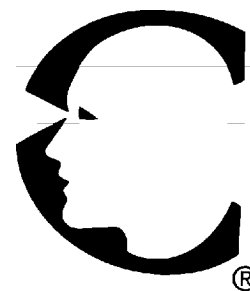


VISIONARY

A publication of the Cornea Research Foundation of America



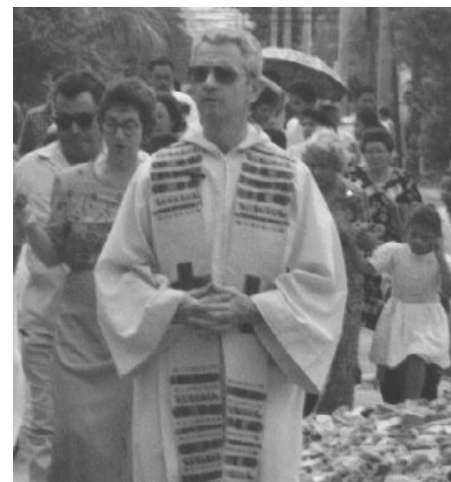
May 2001

Missionary Turns to CRFA and Dr. Francis Price, Jr. for Another Chance at Sight

Bob Coyne is a kind and compassionate individual who has dedicated his life to serving God's people. In Bob's case, "God's people" currently reside in poverty stricken San Pedro Sula, Honduras.

How did an American born, Xavier educated physicist, working on the space program for the US Air Force at Wright Patterson AF Base end up as a missionary in Honduras, Central America? Good question. Bob graduated from Xavier in 1960 with a B.S. in Physics and went to work at Wright Patterson working on the space program. He participated in one of the early Cursillo programs in Cincinnati that led to his commitment to serve St. Mary's Parish and the church. After attending St. Gregory's seminary, he worked for the UC

Medical Center conducting research projects and continued his service to St. Mary's through the St. Vincent de Paul Society and other parish organizations. He spent a short time with the Peace Corps and then came to the conclusion that his skills would be better used by the Papal Volunteers to Latin America (PAVALA). This program provided Bob the opportunity to teach Physics at the University of Valparaiso in Chile, South America. He completed four years as a teacher in Chile and returned to the U.S. to complete a masters program, teach in local schools and continue to evaluate how to best serve the Lord. Guidance came, and Bob entered the Maryknoll formation



Bob Coyne leading his parish.

Brokerage Account Established

The Cornea Research Foundation of America is in the process of establishing a brokerage account as an accommodation to individuals who would like to make gifts to the Foundation of appreciated property. This account will make giving much easier for the donor. If you are interested in learning more about this process or would like to arrange a transfer, please contact Sherry Levy CRFA Foundation representative at (317) 844-5530 ext 2823 or CRFA Board Member Walter Gross at (317) 264-2680.

CRFA Involved in Study to Determine if Age of Donor's Cornea Affects Success of Transplantation

As society changes, the abundance of young healthy donor corneas has drastically decreased. The decrease in available corneas is a result of four societal changes. A) Because of recent automotive safety laws, fewer people are dying in car accidents. B) As HIV cases increase fewer young people are eligible donors when they pass away. C) We have fewer youth suicides. D) The increase in people having LASIK surgery is yielding fewer people available to donate. Note: Corneas that have had LASIK or other refractive surgeries are not always

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Cornea Research Foundation of America

9002 North Meridian
Suite 212
Indianapolis, IN 46260
Phone (317) 844-5610
Fax (317) 814-2806
www.cornea.org

Message From The President of the Board

The foundation is entering an exciting time celebrating accomplishments, new beginnings, and fun. The most notable accomplishment is the July publication in the journal OPTHAMOLOGY of our study on 900 LASIK patients evaluating the use of topical corticosteroids. This study took approximately two years and found that the routine use of topical corticosteroids was not necessary after LASIK. Topical corticosteroids can lead to the development of cataracts and glaucoma, and currently these drops are routinely used by most surgeons after LASIK. We hope this study leads to better patient care all over the world.

Our new beginnings involve a variety of new studies including the evaluation of artificial iris implants to replace the iris, or "colored" part of the eye, in those who may have damaged or lost all or part of the iris; a new method of performing corneal transplants that should lead to much quicker visual recovery and improved vision; and new methods to improve the quality of vision after LASIK surgery.

Just for fun, on June 21st we are having our annual golf outing to raise awareness and funds for the foundation. I hope to see you there!

Sincerely,

Francis W. Price, Jr., M.D.

Cornea Donor Studycontinued from page 1

acceptable for transplantation.

As a result of these changes, fewer young corneas are available. Therefore scientists are now conducting studies to determine whether the age of the donor should be considered in deciding whether a donor cornea should be used for transplantation.

Currently CRFA is one of the sites conducting this study. The study will include about 1,000 patients overall, with about 60 coming from CRFA. In conducting this study, neither the surgeon nor the patient know the age of the cornea. Of course, the cornea is screened so that we know it is free of disease and is a healthy cornea. However, no one at this site knows the age of the cornea.

The main objective of this study is to determine whether graft failure rates tracked over a 5 year follow-up period are equivalent with corneal tissue from

donors older than 65 years of age compared with that from younger donors.

Secondary objectives are: To assess the relationship between donor/recipient blood type compatibility and graft failure due to rejection, and to assess corneal endothelial cell density as an indicator of the health of the cornea and as a surrogate outcome measure.

While this is a fairly new study, we currently have 11 of the 60 patients enrolled. For more information on this study or any other study being conducted by the Foundation, please contact the Project Manager at (317) 844-5610 .

Giving Clubs 2001

We wish to extend a special "Thanks" to those people who have so generously supported CRFA this year.

Opal Club (up to \$99)

Beauton Hesler	Jack & Joan Lane
Birgit M. Mayfield	Linda Cline
Buell F. Kilgas	Mary C. Mc Gillen
Carolyn S. Mc Clamroch	Mathilda Schumacher
Dorothy S. Briggs	Thomas & Sandra Hinshaw
Erwin F. Springer	Tony & Emma Baidinger
	Vincent Wagner

Aquamarine Club (\$100 - 250)

Caroline Rose	Dr. Robert & Dete Naga
Catherine Patterson	Harley R. Ireland
Delbert & Martha Keener	John & Julia Oldenkamp

Sapphire Club (\$501 - 1000)

Kenneth D. Lorenz, OD

Ruby Club (\$1001 - 2500)

Fred W. Fisher
Marvin Cave

Focus on Education

The Cornea Research Foundation in conjunction with the Price Vision Group will be sponsoring **Focus on Education** on Saturday, October 27, 2001. This is the 11th year for our optometric seminar, which will again be held at the Ritz Charles in Carmel, IN.

Jeff Gilbard, M.D., the developer of Thera Tears, will be speaking on Corneal Healing Problems as well as Dry Eye Diagnosis and Treatment. We have again invited the Chairman of the Pharmacology Dept at Purdue, Steve Abel, Pharm-D to speak.

This year's Focus on Education will give optometrists 8 hours of OLDPAC credits. Pre-announcements will be sent out in July, with registration forms going out in early September.



Jocelyn Smith, OD, Faye Peters, OD and Kathy Kelley, OD with Price Vision Group.

Missionary . . . continued from page 1

program in 1974. After an orientation program, he returned to Chile to work with the people forming basic Christian communities.

Twenty years later, and after impacting hundreds of thousands of people's lives, health reasons forced Bob to leave Chile for the more favorable climate in Honduras. San Pedro Sula is Bob's current mission. Medical care is quite poor, Bob estimates that 1/3 of the funerals he officiates over are for those who have died from AIDS. Currently Bob's parish is named Sacred Heart of Jesus, where he works to develop basic Christian communities.

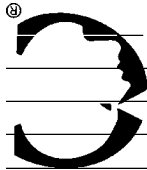
As previously mentioned, health care in San Pedro Sula is extremely poor. High tech surgeries and patient care such as that studied and practiced by Dr. Francis Price, Jr. through the Cornea Research Foundation are totally unheard of

and impossible to secure. Therefore, when Bob began having uncomfortable complications resulting from a previous cataract surgery, his family contacted Dr. Francis Price, Jr. of CRFA for information and help on the newest and best options.

Regarding his previous surgery, Bob wrote: *"It seems that the surgeon had some difficulties during the operation, and the back membrane of the chamber evidently broke, making it impossible to place the lens where it is usually located, and, instead, he placed the lens in the front chamber. In this position the lens moves around and brushes against the iris. Along with this there was considerable debris left in the eye, which also causes a problem with focus. . . . Meanwhile, I cannot read with the eye, and find that the focus problem is something constant."*

Dr. Price immediately contacted Bob and invited him to come to Indianapolis to receive the appropriate medical treatment. Bob arrived soon thereafter. He was immediately evaluated and a date was set for surgery. Bob's intraocular lens was found to be moving in the eye causing cornea inflammation and decreased vision. On the day of surgery, Dr. Price removed the intraocular lens and inserted a new one which was carefully sutured into the posterior chamber of the eye (further away from the back of the cornea) to eliminate the risk of cornea damage. Bob was released and given written post-operative instructions. He then arranged for follow-up with the doctors in San Pedro to monitor the healing of his eye. Due to the skillful procedure performed by Dr. Price, Bob's prognosis is excellent. We will look forward to seeing Bob again and examining his eye when he is able to return to the United States for a visit.

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9002 North Meridian Street
Suite 212
Indianapolis, IN 46260-5350
(317) 844-5610
www.cornea.org

CRFA Golf Classic to be Held Thursday, June 21, 2001

The Cornea Research Foundation of America (CRFA) would like to invite you to the **CORNEA GOLF CLASSIC 2001 on June 21, 2001 at the Old Oakland Golf Club**. The cost per Foursome is \$600 and Individual fees are \$150 each. If you have any questions or would like to become involved with this wonderful fundraiser, please call Sherry Levy at 844-5530 ext 2823.

The Cornea Research Foundation of America was founded in 1986 with a mission to restore and preserve vision through clinical research and education programs relating to disorders and diseases of the eye. Through these programs, the CRFA earned a reputation as a leader in ophthalmic research. As a result, the CRFA brings to the people of Indiana a level of technology and care not otherwise available without leaving the state and in some cases, the country. In order to be in a position not only to continue our current research studies, but to also expand our research efforts, we need your help to raise badly needed funds!

We welcome you to join us as an individual player, a team or a sponsor. Sponsorship fees are as follows: *Titanium*: \$5,000 allows Title Sponsorship in all event materials, two teams of four golfers, and two hole sponsorships; *Platinum*: \$2,500 allows Secondary Sponsorship on all event materials, two teams of four golfers, and one hole sponsorship; *Gold*: \$1,000 gives recognition of sponsorship on all event materials and one team of four golfers; *Silver*: \$500 Hole Sponsorship.



The Cornea Research Foundation of America is a non profit 501(c)3 dedicated to restoring vision through research.