

SEEING IS BELIEVING

“Seeing is believing,” and vision holds the key to sight. Our eyes are our contact with the world. To whatever degree we lose sight, we lose touch with our surroundings, and the quality of life is affected. Blindness is the most feared of all human disabilities.

Today scientists, fortified with unprecedented skills, knowledge and technology are intensifying their research attack against blindness and are on the threshold of unlocking more doors to sight for many who suffer from a wide range of eye diseases and vision problems.

For example, the Wilmer Eye Institute at the Johns Hopkins Hospital has been at the forefront of eye research, teaching and patient care since it was founded in 1925. Year after year, the Wilmer Eye Institute leads the top-ranking eye institutes in the United States.

Our current endowment is \$2.5 million. Our goals are to increase the endowment to Wilmer Institute to \$3.0 million and the committee is continually researching visual aids to assist our members and friends.



HENRY JAMPEL, M.D., M.P.H.

*Third Independent Order of Odd Fellows
Professor of Ophthalmology
Wilmer Eye Institute
Johns Hopkins University*

Henry Jampel, M.D., M.P.H., has been a member of the Glaucoma Division since 1988. He received his bachelor's degree in Biology, summa cum laude, from Harvard College, and subsequently attended the Yale University School of Medicine. Dr. Jampel pursued both his ophthalmology residency training and glaucoma fellowship at the Wilmer Institute, and was then invited to join the faculty.

In 1996 he received a Master's degree in Health Finance and Administration. Clinically, Dr. Jampel treats glaucoma patients of all ages. In addition to the standard glaucoma operations he also has a special interest in combined cataract and glaucoma surgery, drainage device surgery, and ciliodestructive procedures for the more complicated and more unusual glaucomas. He is the medical director of the Wilmer Eye Institute at Greenspring Station. Dr. Jampel's research interests include patient-

oriented outcomes of glaucoma treatment and detection of glaucoma progression. He is the Principal Investigator of a National Eye Institute funded study to determine if changes in the thickness of the retina can predict visual field loss in glaucoma. Dr. Jampel serves as Associate Editor-in-Chief of Ophthalmology, one of the premier journals in the field, and the official journal of the American Academy of Ophthalmology (AAO). He also serves on the Preferred Practice Committee of the AAO for glaucoma and on the Eye Health and Information Task Force of the AAO.

In his spare time, Dr. Jampel spends time with his wife, Risa, a dermatologist recently designated as one of Baltimore's best doctors, and his three children, Catherine, Joseph and Sarah. He completed the Ironman World Triathlon Championship in Kailua-Kona, Hawaii, in 1999 and continues to race competitively as a triathlete.

MEMBER REFERRALS TO WILMER

Odd Fellows and Rebekahs who wish to have serious eye problems referred to the Wilmer Eye Institute for review by the Odd Fellows Professor may do so by:

- 1.) A letter from your Lodge Secretary or the Grand Lodge or Rebekah Assembly stating you are a member in good standing must accompany the referral request from the Doctor.
- 2.) Requesting the individual's ophthalmologist to fill out an Odd Fellow/Rebekah Visual Research Foundation referral form and send it with the patient's records directly to Dr. Jampel at the Wilmer Eye Institute.

(Forms are available through the Offices of the Grand Secretaries, Assembly Secretaries or through the chairman of the Odd Fellows and Rebekahs Visual Research Foundation.)

KEY CLUB

The funding for work and programs of the Odd fellows and Rebekahs Visual Research Foundation is made possible by the 'PER MEMBER CAMPAIGN'. Lodges and Units of the Order which donate are recognized with Key Club certificates presented at the annual sessions of the Sovereign Grand Lodge, International Association of Rebekahs, General Military Council and International Association Ladies Auxiliary.

BIG EYE LAMPS

The Big Eye magnifier lamps, which have helped many members and friends who have vision problems or for use in hobbies and crafts, are available by contacting the Odd Fellow and Rebekah Visual Research Foundation Chairman.

E. Wes Nelson, Chairman
55 Bedridge Way N.E.
Calgary, Alberta T3K 1M2
Phone (403) 698-1074
E-mail: ewnelson@shaw.ca

HUGH J. BRADLEY DISTINGUISHED SERVICE AWARD

The Hugh J. Bradley Distinguished Service Award is presented annually to an individual or group for outstanding dedication and effort in the preservation of sight. The award was established in 1996 as a tribute to the late Hugh J. Bradley, Past Sovereign Grand Master, and first chairman of the Odd Fellows and Rebekahs Visual Research Foundation. It was through his foresight and work that the Order established a research chair in ophthalmology at the Wilmer Eye Institute at Johns Hopkins University in Baltimore.

MARGARET L. WATTS ENDOWMENT TRUST

The Margaret L. Watts Scholars and Fellows Endowment Trust at the Wilmer Eye Institute was established to honor the late Margaret Watts, who was President of the International Association of Rebekah Assemblies at the time she then Odd Fellow World Eye Bank and Visual Research Foundation was established and who served as the first executive secretary for the foundation.

HUGH J. BRADLEY EYE RESEARCH FUND

Through a \$50,000 gift from the Jurisdiction of Tennessee, a trust has been established at the Wilmer Eye Institute to honor former Sovereign Grand Master, the late

Hugh J. Bradley from the jurisdiction of Tennessee, who served as the first chairman of the Odd Fellows and Rebekahs Visual Research Foundation.

The trust provides funds to support research into the most common blinding eye disease of the time determined by the Director of the Wilmer Eye Institute.

GRIFFIN-STEVENS-SWITZER RESEARCH FUND

The Griffin-Stevens-Switzer Research Fund was established at the Wilmer Eye Institute in 1993. It was a tribute to long-time past Chairman John Griffin, who died in 1992. Also to Lois K. Stevens, Past President of the International Association of Rebekah Assemblies, who died in 2010. She served as secretary of the Foundation for 20 years and for Germaine Switzer who served as secretary of the Foundation for 13 years.

IRENE SKOP MEMORIAL FUND

A trust fund was established at the Wilmer Eye Institute as a memorial to the late Irene Skop who, in her capacity at Wilmer, acted as a liaison between the Odd Fellows Professor and the Foundation for 35 years. Earnings from the fund will be used for special training for a member of the Wilmer support staff who best exemplifies the personal traits of Irene Skop, who was a Rebekah and a Hugh J. Bradley Distinguished Service Award recipient.

JURISDICTIONS IN SIGHT

Thirty-five States and five Canadian Provinces have contracts with the Odd Fellow and Rebekah Visual Research foundation for local eye programs.

They are:

Alberta	Mississippi
Arizona	Nebraska
Atlantic Provinces	Nevada
British Columbia	New Hampshire
California	New Jersey
Colorado	New York
Connecticut	North Carolina
Delaware	Ohio
Florida	Oklahoma
Georgia	Oregon
Idaho	Pennsylvania
Illinois	Saskatchewan
Iowa	South Carolina
Kansas	Tennessee
Louisiana	Texas
Maine	Vermont
Manitoba	Virginia
Massachusetts	Washington
Michigan	West Virginia
Minnesota	Wyoming

JURISDICTIONAL PROJECTS

Purchase of equipment for Medical Schools and Eye Clinics.
Operation of Eye Banks.
Amblyopia screening.
Support for Ophthalmological Research.
Operation of Low Vision Clinics.
Purchase of eye glasses for needy and elderly.
Mobile eye exam units.
Printing of Odd Fellow and Rebekah rituals in Braille.
Collecting eye glasses for Third World Countries.
Sale and donations of Big Eye Lamps.

**ODD FELLOWS
AND REBEKAHS
VISUAL
RESEARCH
FOUNDATION
INDEPENDENT ORDER OF
ODD FELLOWS**



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