

GIVING

The Gift of

SIGHT



LIONS EYE BANK OF WISCONSIN
2021 ANNUAL REPORT

I had the honor and privilege of serving as the Chairman of the Board for LEBW from 2021 to 2022. This is my sixth year on the LEBW Board. I give great credit to our LEBW President/CEO, Stacey, and her management team for navigating LEBW through the COVID pandemic.

People always ask me, “when will we be back to normal?” The pandemic resulted in several employees working from home. For some employees, working from home, most of the time will be the new normal. The number of donors is steadily increasing, but still 20-30% under the pre-pandemic numbers. The shortage of donors has affected all eye banks, similarly, resulting in a nationwide corneal tissue shortage. The pandemic has also forced LEBW to look at revenue options. Those doors are now open, and I expect we will expand in the future.

The LEBW administration has tightened its belt to make ends meet. Unfortunately, that has also resulted in a delay in purchasing new computers and lab equipment. An equipment list is being developed with a priority ranking. We need to update our equipment to keep everything running smoothly.

We had LEBW staff and district board representatives at every district convention. I appreciate the representation and assistance of each board member.

The future of LEBW is bright. The pandemic was a true test of the mettle of the LEBW administration and the Lions of Wisconsin. LEBW will be around for a long time.

This year also had Dr. Barney retiring as our medical advisor. His oversight of LEBW has been a key element of our success. His hands-on supervision in the lab and training of lab personnel has resulted in tissue quality that is some of the highest in the country.

And finally, I want to thank Stacey, the staff at LEBW, and the LEBW Board for making my year as Chair challenging yet fulfilling. Your collective positive attitudes and work ethic have been quite appreciated. Tissue donation and transplantation will always be an emotional experience for the donor families and the recipient and their families. Everybody at LEBW respects and understands that. It truly is a GIFT of Sight.

STACEY TROHA
Chief Executive
Officer



GREG KRUG
Board Chair



2021 FINANCIAL HIGHLIGHTS

ASSETS	2021	2020
CURRENT ASSETS		
Cash	\$883,552	\$265,659
Certificates of Deposit	\$243,378	\$242,954
Accounts Receivable	\$726,157	\$545,947
Prepaid Expenses	\$27,478	\$12,602
Total Current Assets	\$1,880,565	\$1,067,162
OTHER ASSETS		
Property & Equipment, net	\$4,076,345	\$4,264,575
Investments	\$4,415,646	\$3,608,451
Total Other Assets	\$8,491,991	\$7,873,026
TOTAL ASSETS	\$10,372,556	\$8,940,188

LIABILITIES AND NET ASSETS	2021	2020
CURRENT LIABILITIES		
Accounts Payable	\$109,068	\$66,660
Accrued Expenses	\$162,926	\$140,177
Current Portion of Grants Payable	\$64,500	\$50,000
Current Portion of Capital Lease Obligations	\$14,937	\$14,305
Total Current Liabilities	\$351,431	\$271,142
OTHER LIABILITIES		
Capital Lease Obligation Less Current Portion	\$26,404	\$40,180
Grant Payable Less Current Portion	\$131,000	\$200,000
Total Other Liabilities	\$157,404	\$240,180
Total Liabilities	\$508,835	\$511,322

NET ASSETS	2021	2020
Without Donor Restrictions	\$9,759,149	\$8,354,713
With Donor Restrictions	\$104,572	\$74,153
Total Net Assets	\$9,863,721	\$8,428,866
TOTAL LIABILITIES & NET ASSETS	\$10,372,556	\$8,940,188

GRATEFUL RECIPIENT

My name is Betty Ingwell, and I am a 46-year Lioness and a 7-year Lion inducted into Lionism by Past International President Barry Palmer of Australia. Forty-five years ago, I was diagnosed with Fuchs' dystrophy. At that time, I had never heard of the disease until my diagnosis. It is a debilitating, incurable disease that causes fluid buildup in the cornea and causes it to swell and thicken, and eventually leads to blindness. Fuchs' dystrophy is usually inherited and more common in women, but I have no idea which side of my family it came from. So far, no one else in my family has contracted it. I accepted my disability and occasionally would ask my doctor for a cure, to which he would answer, "not at this time." Surgery was not an option either, as I also had cataracts in both eyes, and he was concerned that cataract surgery might do more harm, and I could go blind immediately.

In January 2021, at an eye exam, I learned that Dr. Warner had experience doing successful cornea transplant surgery with Fuchs' Dystrophy. I was found to be a candidate for a corneal transplant - I was elated! My procedure was scheduled for April 20, 2021. I would have my cataract removed and a cornea replacement in my left eye. The surgery went very well, and immediately after the surgery, I was told to lay flat for one hour before going home and then continue lying flat for 24 hours, only rising for personal needs for five minutes at a time.

When the patch was removed the following morning, I could see clearly for the first time in years. I had an eyedrop protocol every two hours during waking hours for five days, and then every four hours with an antibiotic for ten days. Following that, I had a protocol of prednisone drops four times a day for three months and then tapering down to only once per day. Every day went on with no complications.

The cataract/cornea transplant in my right eye was scheduled for September 7. Unfortunately, I wasn't as lucky with the second cornea, which needed three additional adjustments from Dr. Warner, following the same protocol after each one. To date, the cornea is still in place. It took a short time for the swelling and soreness to fade, but it eventually subsided. My left eye continues to be great, but the right eye occasionally has some blurriness.

The tissue donor for my left eye was 31 years old, and the right eye donor was a 54-year-old male. I can't thank the donor families enough for donating their loved one's corneal tissue. I am sure that decision wasn't made lightly, and I want them to know that a piece of their loved one lives on through me. I also wish to thank Dr. Warner, LEBW Medical Director, for his talent and skill in restoring my sight.

I have always known that I wanted to be an eye donor, but I never dreamed that I would be a recipient! Thank you to all who have donated to Lions Eye Bank of Wisconsin, thank you to the Lions of Wisconsin for continuously supporting LEBW, and a very



LEFT TO RIGHT:
DEBBIE MCCANN & BETTY
INGWELL-BETTY RECEIVED
THE GIFT OF SIGHT
FELLOWSHIP AWARD.

2021 LEBW DONATION AND TRANSPLANTS BY THE NUMBERS



1,231
released for transplant



573
Wisconsin



558
Domestically/internationally

EBAA'S 2021 TOTAL CORNEAL TRANSPLANT STATS



64,048
Total number of U.S. donors



49,110
Total domestic transplants



22,928
Total international transplants



LEFT TO RIGHT:
EDNAN, ALEX
AND VICTORIA



EDNAN

THE GIFT OF SIGHT

Ednan was always giving all of himself in everything he did in life, and even though his two daughters did not know about his decision to donate until after his passing, they were not surprised.

Victoria and Alex, Ednan's daughters, believe that the main reason their dad elected to be an eye donor is that they have family members who have experienced vision loss. Alex has a scratch on her cornea that has caused significant vision loss, with only about 30% vision remaining. The family also has a cousin who lost all eyesight by the time she turned five years old, but thankfully she is thriving now and has a family of her own.

Ednan was the most amazing, selfless, hilarious, fun-loving, hard-working, and dedicated person you'll ever have the privilege of knowing. He had so much love in his heart for all living things and showed that to everyone he met. He would give you the shirt on his back, shoes on his feet, and pants, too (if it wasn't too cold!). He persevered through so many tribulations in his life and never gave up. He dedicated his life to serving others.

He loved trying new career paths. Once, he was a D.J., security guard, plumber, woodworker, apartment building manager/maintenance, and a truck driver for airing and cooling supplies. His last occupation was driving a bus for a senior care center to pick up/drop off the seniors and take them on field trips. But he was also so much more. He was a musician, a father, son, brother, cousin, and friend. A comedian and a cook too! Ednan was such a great cook; people would ask him all the time how to cook this or that. His favorite cooking medium was B.B.Q. He was the best at that.

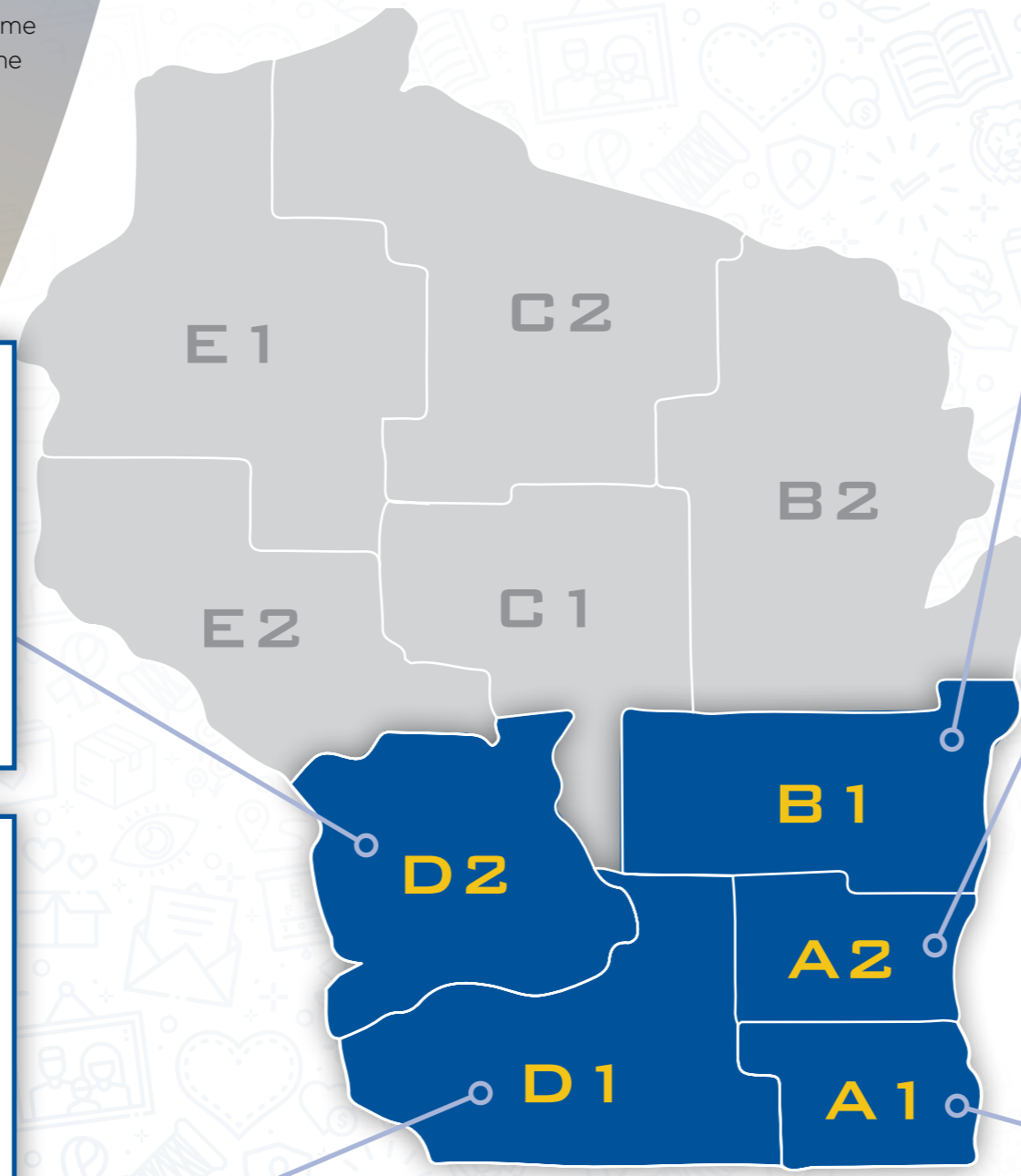
He had a passion for taking pictures, he had so many cameras and memory cards packed with pictures of anything and everything. He loved getting those candid shots of people laughing and enjoying life. He also loved taking pictures of things that would remind you of the beauty of this world. That, despite all the pain and ugliness the world can throw at you, there is equal, if not more beauty, if you are open to it.

He loved older shows like M.A.S.H., Gilligan's Island, and Happy Days. He also really loved action movies, one of his favorites was A Knight's Tale. When his daughter Victoria was younger, she was obsessed with The Lion King and made her dad watch it with her probably a hundred times or so. He also loved sports and watching the Green Bay Packers.

During Ednan's last day, Victoria remembers him looking out of the window a lot. Whenever she asked if he was ok, he said, "yeah, I'm just taking a look." Even in the last hours, Ednan was still trying to take in the beauty offered to him. And that is why Victoria and Alex are so very proud of their dad and thankful that he chose to give that gift of seeing the world's beauty to other people.

WI LIONS CLUB FINANCIAL CONTRIBUTIONS

Lions Eye Bank of Wisconsin is grateful for the continued support from all Wisconsin Lions & Lioness Clubs. Lions members provide not only financial contributions, but also volunteer their time transporting corneal tissue and advocating for the importance of organ, eye and tissue donation.



27-D2

Gifts Under \$250		Gifts of \$500-\$999
Prairie du Chien	Wonewoc Area	Elroy
Seneca	Gays Mills	Holmen
District 27-D2	Onalaska	La Farge
Ithaca	Barre-Coed	Reedsburg
Camp Douglas	Mauston	Richland Center
Coon Valley	Necedah	St. Joseph's Ridge
Genoa	Tomah Lioness	Stoddard
Lake Delton	Viroqua	
Plain	Warrens	Gifts \$1,000-\$4,999
Tomah		Sauk Prairie
West Salem	Gifts of \$250-\$499	
	Baraboo	
	La Crosse	
	Hillsboro	

27-D1

Gifts Under \$250		Gifts of \$500-\$999
Cobb	Shullsburg	Albany
Dodgeville Lioness	Highland	Cottage Grove
Evansville	Darlington	Cuba City
Hazel Green	Madison Evening	Edgerton
Dodgeville	Token Creek	Janesville Noon
Boscobel Area	Boscobel Area	Lancaster
Evansville		Madison West
Fennimore	Gifts of \$250-\$499	New Glarus
Lake Wisconsin	Beloit Evening	Pardeeville
Lake Wisconsin	Darlington	Stoughton
Mazomanie	Madison Central	Monticello Lioness
Mt Horeb	Monticello	
Muscoda	Oregon/Brooklyn	Gifts \$1,000-\$4,999
Muscoda	Verona	Cottage Grove
Portage	Mineral Point	Middleton
Potosi/Tennyson		Waunakee/Westport
		Sun Prairie

27-B1

Gifts Under \$250		Gifts \$1,000-\$4,999
Amsterdam	St. Nazianz	Berlin
Cascade	Appleton Noon	Hilbert
Fairwater		Montello
District 27-B1	Gifts of \$500-\$999	Sheboygan Area
Appleton Evening	Chilton	Lions Support Group
Eldorado	Eden	Sherwood
Poy Sippi	Larsen-Winchester	Van Dyne
Howards Grove	Larsen-Winchester	Cleveland
Mishicot	Plymouth	
Oxford Lioness	Rosendale	
Van Dyne Lioness	Sheboygan Noon	
	St. Peter	
	Town of Sheboygan	
Gifts of \$250-\$499	Wild Rose	
Fond du Lac Evening	Stockbridge	
Markesan	Appleton Noon	

27-A2

Gifts Under \$250		Gifts \$1,000-\$4,999
Okauchee	Belgium	Cedarburg
Port Washington	Horicon	Delafield-Summit
Wauwatosa	Hustisford	Grafton
	Oconomowoc	Hartford
Gifts of \$250-\$499	Sussex	Richfield
Fredonia	Watertown	Allenton
Hartford-Kettle	Lomira	Thiensville-Mequon
Moraine	West Bend Lion/ Lioness	
Newburg	Mayville	
Lebanon		
Hartford-Kettle		
Moraine		
Iron Ridge		
Stone Bank		

27-A1

Gifts Under \$250		Gifts \$1,000-\$4,999
Genoa City	Union Grove	Big Bend-Vernon
Wind Lake	Mukwonago	Cudahy
Bayview	Paddock Lake Area	East Troy
Cambridge Area	Tichigan Lake	Greendale
Greater Kenosha	Delavan	New Berlin
Jefferson		Oak Creek
Kenosha Noon	Gifts of \$500-\$999	Waukesha Noon
West Allis Central	Burlington	Lake Geneva
Palmyra	District 27-A1	Hales Corners
Elkhorn	South Milwaukee	
Franklin Lioness	St. Francis	
West Allis	Muskego	
Williams Bay		
Big Bend-Vernon		

27-E1

Gifts Under \$250

St Croix Falls
Boyd
Chetek
Clear Lake
Hayward
Stanley
Turtle Lake
Grantsburg
Brule River
Chequamegon

Pattison Park
Shell Lake
Tilden
Webster

Gifts of \$250-\$499

Chippewa Falls
Seeley
Seeley
Prairie Farm
St Croix Falls

Gifts of \$500-\$999

Amery
Cadott
Jim Falls

Gifts \$1,000-\$4,999

Jim Falls
Rice Lake
Lake Holcombe

27-E2

Gifts Under \$250

Fairchild
Osseo
Hammond
Augusta
Ettrick
Prescott
Roberts
Whitehall
Eau Claire Seymour

Gifts of \$250-\$499

Ellsworth
Independence
Galesville
Woodville
Altoona
Cochrane-Buffalo City
Mondovi
Trempealeau

Gifts of \$500-\$999

Black River Falls
Cleghorn
Arcadia
Hudson
Gifts \$1,000-\$4,999
Ellsworth
Menomonie
River Falls
Menomonie

27-C2

Gifts Under \$250

Ogema
Prentice
Washburn
Whittlesey
Winchester
Glidden
Presque Isle
Gleason Area
Gleason Area

Gifts of \$250-\$499

Hazelhurst
Rib Lake
Phillips
Manitowish Waters
Phelps/Land O Lakes
Plum Lake Lions

Gifts of \$500-\$999

Boulder Junction
Merrill
South Shore

St. Germain
Tomahawk
Three Lakes

Gifts \$1,000-\$4,999

Lake Tomahawk
Mercer
St. Germain
Northwoods
Eagle River
Medford
St. Germain Lioness

27-C1

Gifts Under \$250

Rudolph
Stevens Pt Noon
Wisconsin Rapids
Wisconsin Rapids
Stratford
Curtiss
Lake Mason
Roche-A-Cri

Stratford
Marshfield
Pittsville
Pittsville

Gifts of \$250-\$499

Loyal
Rosholt
Abbotsford
Abbotsford

Edgar
Junction City
Castle Rock

Gifts of \$500-\$999

Adams-Friendship
Bevent
Gifts \$1,000-\$4,999
Marathon County
Support Group

27-B2

Gifts Under \$250

Ashwaubenon
Crooked Lake-Mountain
Embarrass River
Manawa
Pearson-Pickerel
Shiocton
Shiocton
Tigerton
Peshtigo
Waupaca
Algoma

Allouez
Black Creek
New London
New London

Gifts of \$250-\$499

Casco
Oconto Falls Lioness
Sister Bay
Brussels

Gifts of \$500-\$999

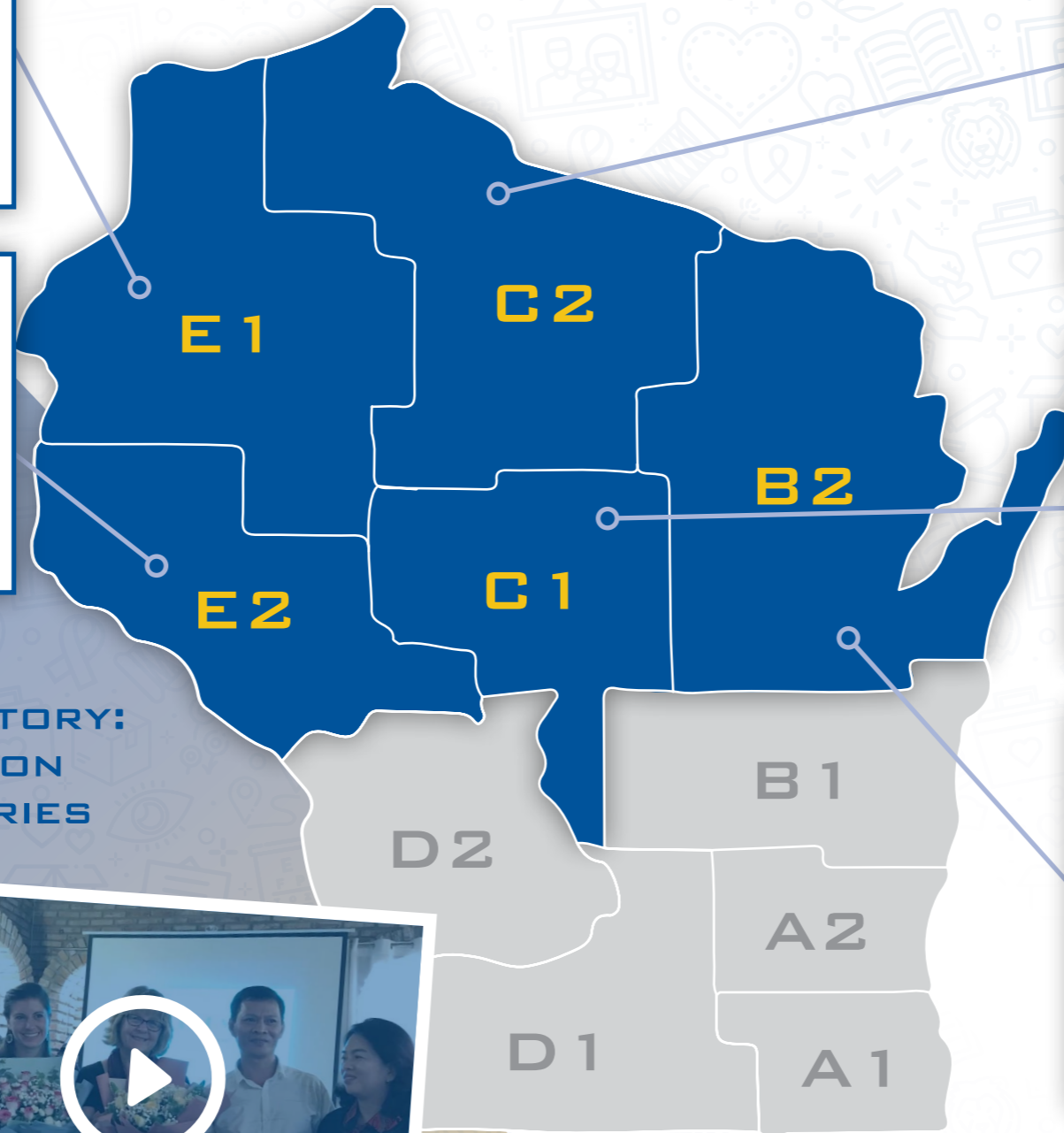
Greenville Lioness
Lions

Kaukauna
Marinette
Pulaski
Wabeno

Wabeno
Dyckesville
Bellevue

Gifts \$1,000-\$4,999

Grand Chute
Wittenberg
Grand Chute



THE PAUL FRANCAR STORY: BRIDGING A CONNECTION BETWEEN TWO COUNTRIES

Paul was, above all, kind, and he always tended to others' needs first. His sincere ability to listen and truly empathize was rare and drew people to him. Paul became a donor hero on December 27, 2018, providing the gift of sight that would restore sight to two people in Vietnam.



[CLICK TO SEE THE FULL VIDEO](#)

2021 KNIGHT OF SIGHT FELLOWSHIP

The Knight of Sight Fellowship is awarded to an individual or organization for their exemplary work and dedication in giving the gift of sight. The Gift of Sight Fellowship is achieved with a donation of \$1,000 or more. The recipient's name will be displayed on the new LEBW donor digital interactive wall of honor scheduled to be installed in 2023.

A 1		B 2	
Dave Mliner	New Berlin Lions Club	Karl Heinze	Grand Chute Lions Club
William Emerich	Tichigan Lake Lions Club	Wil Baye	Grand Chute Lions Club
Doug Lewandowski	Big Bend-Vernon Lions Club	Karen Fischer	Marion Lions Club
Patty Redlin	South Milwaukee Lions Club		
Donald Hoernke	Waterford Lions Club	D 2	
Diane Kordus	Waterford Lions Club	Larry Byrne	Onalaska Lions Club
William Johnson	Waterford Lions Club		
A 2		E 1	
Michael Mertz	Hustisford Lions Club	Bunee Schultz	Rice Lake Lions Club
Kase Kasemodel	Thiensville-Mequon Lions Club	Jacque Schaffer	Rick Lake Lions Club
Alexis Jablonski	Hartford Kettle Moraine	Elaine Edlund	St. Croix Falls Lions Club
Amanda Hostetler	Hartford Kettle Moraine	Ron Edlund	St. Croix Falls Lions Club
Kim Steinmetz	Hartford Kettle Moraine	Jerry Prokop	St. Croix Falls Lions Club
Lana Frank	Hartford Kettle Moraine		
Kacey Nienstedt	Hartford Kettle Moraine	E 2	
Kathy Shoemaker	Fredonia Lions Club	Gerry Ries	Hudson Lions Club
Mark Weninger	Allenton Lions Club	Terry Nelson	Menomonie Lions
Dan Zuelke	Allenton Lions Club	Jack Gust	Menomonie Lions
Steve Kline	Allenton Lions Club	Tammy Raeder	Augusta Lions Club
Stu Mueller	Allenton Lions Club	Jerome Bishop	Ettrick Lions Club
		JoAnn Blaschko	Arcadia Lioness Club
		Antoinette Johnson	Arcadia Lioness Club
		Patricia Brovold	Arcadia Lioness Club
		Ken King	Cleghorn Lions Club
		Susan Solli	Independence Lions Club
B 1			
Leon Harder	Larsen-Winchester Lions Club		
Raymond Halbach	Sherwood Lions Club		
Carolyn Cox	Appleton Noon Lions Club		
Sharon Huss	Appleton Noon Lions Club		
Barbara Leichtfuss	Van Dyne Lions Club		
Sandra Muche	Van Dyne Lions Club		

2021 GIFT OF SIGHT FELLOWSHIP

Gift of Sight Fellowship is awarded for continued support and participation in giving the gift of sight and recognizes the dedication and involvement in the challenge to eliminate curable blindness. The Gift of Sight Fellowship is achieved with a donation of \$500 or more. The recipient's name will be displayed on the new LEBW donor digital interactive wall of honor scheduled to be installed in 2023.

GIFT OF SIGHT FELLOWSHIP AWARD RECIPIENTS

B1 Roger Behm, Plymouth Lions Club	D1 Mary Murphy, Madison Monona Lioness Club
D1 Betty Ingwell, Madison Monona Lioness Club	D1 Kathy Easland, Madison Monona Lioness Club
D1 Joan Curtain, Madison Monona Lioness Club	D1 Sharon Friederick, Highland Lions Club
	D1 Michelle Shernak, Highland Lions Club

2020-21 DISTRICT LEVEL AWARDS

Each fiscal year, all ten districts in Wisconsin establish goals for financial contributions awarded to LEBW. District Governors are responsible for encouraging clubs within their district to make contributions throughout the year.

If the district meets its goal, the District Governor is awarded either a Knight or Gift of Sight Fellowship award at the LEBW annual meeting in July. LEBW is grateful for the continued support from all Wisconsin Lions Clubs who help give the gift of sight.

KNIGHT OF SIGHT FELLOWSHIP AWARD RECIPIENTS

D1 **Tammy Rockenbach**

GIFT OF SIGHT FELLOWSHIP AWARD RECIPIENTS

A1 **Don Drew**

D2 **Eric Zingler**

E2 **Ronda Bierbrauer**

2021 DISPATCHER & TRANSPORTER AWARDS

LEBW Dispatcher and Transporter awards are presented to individuals who make an incredible difference in the lives of others and who are instrumental in supporting the mission of giving the gift of sight. LEBW staff and volunteers nominate individuals who go above and beyond their volunteer transporting duties. The LEBW Board of Directors and staff commend you for your dedication, service, and helping to further our mission.

DISPATCHER AWARDS

Don "Butch" Lind, Stevens Point Evening Lions Club

Georgia Lutz, Plover/Whiting Lions Club

Duane Klabon, Wisconsin River Lions Club

John Mitchell, Fox River Lions Club

Arletta Trejo, Beaver Dam Lions Club

TRANSPORTER AWARDS

Anita Kinser, Sauk Prairie Lions Club

Bob Schmidt, Watertown Lions Club

Peter Cerniglia, Cross Plains Lions Club

LEFT TO RIGHT:
GEORGIA LUTZ &
KASEY SCHMITZ



LEFT TO RIGHT:
PETER CERNIGLIA
& RICK DALUGE

GIFTS IN HONOR

IN MEMORY

Al Savina	Gene Gilbertson	Lisa Young-Borkowski	Richard Schulte
Arlene Johnson	George Andrys	Michael Braxton Frawley	Robert Keel
Bernadette Zinimer	Hailey (My Donor)	Mike Counsell	Roger Gartzke
Bill Hicks	Janey Kimpton	Mike Kearns	Ron Kalscheur
Bill Stubbe	Jeff Hand	Norman Faber	Ryan Gellings
Bob Beaver	Jim Bence	Orin Nummerdor	Sue Bonamer
Carol Mummert	Joe Bertrand	Paul Miller	Suzanne Mousel
Cheryl Stedman	Joey Counsell	PDG Michael Kelley	Terry Tomaszewski
Denise Knoten	Ken Kobs	Peggy Jean Raleigh	Terry VonAsten
Doreen Laufenberg	Kit Thompson	Phyllis Nagler	Trudy H Wille
Erik L Madisen, Jr.	Len Quinn	Ralph Trejo	
Franklin B Jones	Linda Frederick	Richard Gjermo	

IN HONOR

Rebecca Bartow, MD	"Donor Family"	Highland Lions Club
Dr. Neal Barney	Jerry Murphy	75th Anniversary

PRIVATE & CORPORATE GIFTS

Alan & Linda Roetker	David & Patricia Jones	Jim Faltersack - JCS LLC	Peter Kirk
Alan & Nancy Rhode	Denise Lalumiere	Joan Smaglik	Peter & Joanne Cerniglia
Amerhart	Diane Mayes	John & Charlene Ennis	Phillip & Betty Ingwell
Andrew Savina	Diane & Roger Krause	John & Judith Dahlgren	Raymond Portman
Ann Boerson	Dick Leverentz	Judy Carpenter	Reid Meyer
Anna Marie Davidson	Dick Schlieve	Julie Hastreiter	Robert & Cheryl Hays
Anonymous	Donald Bartel	Keryl & Denver Shilts	Robert & Patty Depta
Betty & Gerald Havlovitz	Donald H. Huth & Vivian	Linda Mason	Robert & Stephanie
Beth Jefferson	R. Huth - Revovable	Lisa Wright	Klockow
Blackbaud Giving Fund	Living Trust	Lois Kobleske (American	Robert C. Seiler
Blackbaud Giving Group	Donna & Gerald Prieve	Endowment Fund)	Charitable Fund
Bob Henning	Emily C. Lyons	Lori Zareczny	Ronald & Karen Blawusch
Bruce & Ann Chopp	Memorial Golf Outing	Lynette Ender	Ruth White
Bruce Chopp	Erica Singly	Marianne Kull	Scott & Maureen Martin
Carol Brill &	Gary & Anna	Mary McCartney	Sharon Black
Douglas Booth	Marie Davison	Messiah Lutheran Church	Sivakami Kangayappan
Charles Keifenheim	Gary & Kay Brummeyer	Michael Hietpas	Stacey Troha
Cheryl & Robert Hays	Glen & Debra Helmbrecht	Michael & Elizabeth Wilken	Suzanne Bloch
Chilton Area Community	Gloria Salas	Nancy Rhode	Tammy Rockenbach
Foundations	Gundlach Family Fund	Network for Good	Teodoro Benitez
Chris & Elizabeth Portman	Hanne Brooks	via Facebook	Thomas Doxey
Clark Pettersen	James Westphal	Pamela Ray	Thomas & Peggy Selle
Community Foundation:	Janet Carpenter	Patricia Graupner	University of Wisconsin
McDermott Family Fund	Jean Albers	Patricia Tomski	Medical Foundation
David Potratz	Jerry & Marie Arenas	Paul Addison	William & Amy Lucci
	Jim & Mary Olson		



PROVIDING THE GIFT OF SIGHT

The charity care fund allows Lions Eye Bank of Wisconsin to provide the gift of sight to individuals who do not have the means to afford their cornea transplant or aftercare. Each year, LEBW serves our residents, provides corneas for mission trips, and offers the gift of sight in countries with no other opportunity to receive a cornea transplant.



GIVE NOW

[HTTPS://LEBW.ORG/GIVE/](https://LEBW.ORG/GIVE/)

LEBW TRANSPORTERS

In partnership with Wisconsin Lions Clubs, nearly 2,000 local Lions Club members across Wisconsin volunteer each year to provide door-to-door transportation of donated corneal tissue. Volunteers are trained through the LEBW Transporter Program, coined the “Cornea Express,” and is unique to Wisconsin. In 2021, an estimated 294 Lions Clubs in Wisconsin provided roughly 1,346 transports. LEBW Transporters provide an estimated cost savings of \$255,000 annually to LEBW. Most importantly, LEBW Transporters serve as special

honor guards, treating every gift with dignity and respect as they are brought to LEBW for evaluation, processing and then to our local surgeon’s door, ready for transplantation.

Today, we are proud to see second and third generations of LEBW Transporters participating in the program and volunteering their time to help make the gift of sight possible. Through our partnership with Lions Clubs, we continue to build a long tradition of dedication to raising awareness for organ, eye, and tissue donation in Wisconsin.

“OVER THE YEARS THAT PETER, AND I HAVE BEEN HEARD MANY STORIES. ONCE, A RECIPIENT CAME UP TO PETER, HUGGED HIM, AND SAID, ‘THANK YOU FOR GIVING ME MY SIGHT!’ WOW, THAT WAS WORTH A MILLION DOLLARS.”

—JOANNE AND PETER CERNIGLIA,
LEBW TRANSPORTERS AND CROSS PLAINS LIONS
CLUB MEMBERS



STATS SNAPSHOT

- **Almost 2,000 LEBW Transporters** volunteer each year to provide door-to-door transportation of corneal tissue.
- **Over 200 Wisconsin Lions Clubs** help to provide the gift of sight.
- **Transporters are on call 365 days a year, rain, or shine**, fighting the elements to give the gift of sight to those awaiting corneal transplant surgery.
- **LEBW is the only eye bank in the U.S. who fully relies on the volunteer efforts of Lions Clubs** to transport corneal tissue throughout Wisconsin.

LEBW'S NEW CUMULATIVE GIVING PROGRAM

On January 1, 2021, LEBW began its new cumulative gift-giving program. From that date forward, donors will be recognized for their cumulative lifetime gifts to LEBW. Gifts from Lions Clubs, private or corporate donors, donations made in memory or honor of an individual(s), contributions designated for a specific fund, and all other avenues of giving are included when establishing a donor(s) cumulative giving level. We hope that providing more recognition and benefits to our donors will highlight the need for more support for essential programs such as charity care, donor family services, donor memorial garden, education and surgical training, and general operations. In addition, the donor(s) name will be prominently displayed at the LEBW office on a new interactive digital donor wall. Completion of the wall is expected by the end of June 2023.



DONATION LEVELS	NAME
\$500	Gift of Sight
\$1,000	Knight of Sight
\$2,500	Founder of Sight
\$5,000	Hope of Sight
\$10,000	Angel of Sight
\$25,000	Advocate of Sight
\$50,000	Ambassador of Sight
\$100,000	Innovator of Sight
\$250,000	Visionary of Sight
\$500,000	Helen Keller's Inspiration of Sight

YOUR DONATION SUPPORTS THE FOLLOWING AREAS:



Charity Care: The charity care funds allow the eye bank to provide the gift of sight to individuals who do not have the means to afford their cornea transplant or aftercare. Each year, Lions Eye Bank of Wisconsin serves our residents, as well as provides corneas for mission trips and offers the gift of sight in countries where there is no other opportunity to receive a cornea transplant.



Donor Family Services: This fund helps to defray the cost of providing grief support, materials, and programs for our donor families as they recover from their loss.



Donor Memorial Garden: LEBW is raising funds to build a special garden to honor and remember individuals who helped change and enhance the lives of others through their gift of sight donation. The garden will be a lasting, living tribute to all those who gave the gift of sight.



Education and Surgical Training Fund: This fund helps defray the cost of providing education to the public, healthcare professionals, medical examiner offices, surgeons, residents and LEBW staff.



General Operating Fund: This fund helps LEBW defray the rising costs of operating the eye bank, helps us purchase necessary medical supplies, personal protective equipment (PPE) for staff to replace outdated and obsolete eye banking equipment and other necessary supplies. Reducing the cost of operating the eye bank helps us to continue to provide the gift of sight at a minimal cost and allows the eye bank to continue to evolve and grow as new technologies and services are required.

YOU CAN ALSO SUPPORT LEBW WHILE YOU SHOP ON AMAZON.

Shop AmazonSmile and support Lions Eye Bank of Wisconsin! It takes just three simple steps:

- 1. Go to Smile.Amazon.com**
If you have a regular Amazon account, sign-in and select your charity. Or, search for AmazonSmile, and it will take you to the designation field.
- 2. Type In Lions Eye Bank of Wisconsin Inc.**
- 3. Confirm your selection.**
That's it! Once you make LEBW your designated charity, we'll continue to benefit from all purchases made through AmazonSmile.



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