



Founding family acknowledged with philanthropic award

Philanthropy, for members of the Jenkyns family, is something they learned at a very early age from someone who cared deeply about humanity and who passed his values on to his children and grandchildren.

Art Jenkyns, who founded Operation Eyesight in Calgary in 1963, instilled a genuine caring for others in his five children and they have, in turn, passed that along to their children. The focus of their giving is invariably the charity that was close to their father's heart, and all of them continue to donate and give their time.

In recognition of the Jenkyns family's ongoing commitment, the members jointly were awarded a Generosity of Spirit award for Outstanding Philanthropic Family. The award was bestowed by the Calgary chapter of the Association of Fundraising Professionals in honour of National Philanthropy Day on November 15, 2013.

The award is really about Art Jenkyns, insists his daughter Linda. "My dad was a very special man," she says. "He made every single person he ever met feel special, no matter what their contribution."

It was that personal touch that made all the difference in the early days of Operation Eyesight. "He and my mom used to sign every thank you letter that went out. My dad talked to everyone he



Monique de St. Croix, uniqueperspectives.ca

*Art Jenkyns would be proud of his family!
From left, granddaughter Glenys, sons Tom and Bill,
daughter Linda, son Jim, and daughter Arleigh.*

could about the charity that was his passion in life." By the time Art passed away at age 83, Operation Eyesight had grown beyond his wildest dreams.

Today, more than 50 years after its founding, the entire Jenkyns family is still deeply involved with Operation Eyesight. For Art's children, Tom, Linda, Arleigh, Bill and Jim, and 11 grandchildren, Operation Eyesight is still close to everyone's heart.

"When we get together for Christmas or birthdays, we gather donations for 'our' charity in lieu of

gifts. Some family members attend AGMs; many have paid for cataract surgery for someone they will never meet; several have supported drilling wells and others help in the office. One family member particularly enjoys public presentation, much like her grandfather, but everyone is involved in some way.

"Operation Eyesight is in our hearts and it's part of who we are."

The staff and board of Operation Eyesight congratulate each member of the Jenkyns family on this significant recognition, which coincided with our 50th anniversary year. We offer our warmest thanks for their ongoing support and commitment!

See us say 'thank you'!

Our donors are the best, and we like to show you our appreciation as often as we can. Visit our YouTube page at youtube.com/user/OpEyesightUniversal to watch our newest video, "Thank you!" In it, you'll see the smiling faces of some of our Indian and African patients, international staff and board members. In two minutes, we guarantee a smile!



Your support helps people see hope for their future

Nine-year old proves an inspiration to all

Kare is a grade four student from Strathcona-Tweedsmuir School, located in Okotoks, AB. Most kids her age think about ice cream, cake, presents, and how to spend any money that comes their way when they have a birthday – and who can blame them? But Kare proved herself to be very special and generous when she asked for donations to Operation Eyesight instead of presents for her ninth birthday. And she raised \$420! “I would feel bad if I was blind and people cared more about presents than me being blind,” Kare explains. In November, Kare visited our office to learn



Kare during her visit to our office. She holds a walking stick from Africa, used to lead blind people around safely.

more about how her donation would be used, and we were hugely impressed with this thoughtful girl.

Do you have a birthday, anniversary, wedding or other event coming up in your life? If you'd like to be generous like Kare and designate an event in honour of Operation Eyesight, you can do so by visiting operationeyesight.akaraisin.com/celebrations, setting up a personal fundraising page and challenging your friends and family to meet your goal, just like Kare did. We hugely appreciate the time, effort and generosity of Kare and all our donors and supporters, like you!

Thanks for the Inclusion

Inclusion is a music group that's been together for eight years. What makes them unique is that while some of the eight members are individuals with developmental



Members of the Inclusion music group.

challenges, **all** are volunteers who love making music together. Recently they did just that at an event in Campbell River, BC, while at the same time supporting Operation Eyesight by raising nearly \$700. Don McIver, a friend of both Inclusion and Operation Eyesight, spoke to the audience on our behalf.

A band spokesperson says, “We wish to spread the message that while some people achieve goals more easily than others, most worthwhile goals can be reached with time, effort and perhaps someone who believes in you.” We're hugely pleased to have the support of groups like Inclusion, who make our sight-saving work possible. Thank you!

Give a tribute in someone's name

Losing one's sight can be much worse than simply being not able to see. In the developing world, where health care is often scarce or unaffordable, sight is life.

Donating through a Tribute Gift recognizes someone you care about while also giving the gift of sight. Ask about gifts that celebrate people and gifts given in memory of loved ones.

*For more information, contact us at
1-800-585-8265 or info@operationeyesight.com.*



see...what a lasting gift can do

The gift of sight transforms lives and communities. Designating a gift to Operation Eyesight in your will is your opportunity to leave a lasting legacy of sight and hope for the most vulnerable people in Africa and India.

For more information, contact Jennifer Diggens at 1-800-585-8265 or diggensj@operationeyesight.com.



Sharing the light



The candles on the tables were lit as a symbol of people sharing the impact of giving light and life to those they will never meet.

Since its inception 17 years ago, the Norfolk Sunrise Club has generously supported Operation Eyesight. Last fall, they did so again with a banquet in honour of our 50th anniversary, attended by 100 people.

Each banquet table had two candles of different colours, which were lit as a symbol of sharing the light and the gift of sight with another person, according to John Wallace, past president of the Norfolk Sunrise Club. Meanwhile, the different coloured candles represented the countries where Operation Eyesight works. Wow! We love the symbolism!

The night also featured photos of local Rotarians who had visited Operation Eyesight projects in New Delhi, Chandausi and Kullu, showed the banners used



Photos and banners from Rotarians who have visited Operation Eyesight projects in India.

to advertise clinics and eye camps in India, and honoured Operation Eyesight's 50-year history in India. We were touched by the thoughtfulness of this event, and our thanks go to everyone who took part.

Good tidings to all shoppers

If you live in the Calgary region, you might have seen our friendly staff at the Millarville Christmas Market, or maybe one of our hard-working volunteers handed you a candy cane at the Spruce Meadows Christmas Market. If you were one of over 60,000 people who attended these events, thanks for visiting us... we always enjoy meeting you, and thanks to all of our amazing volunteers who made our participation possible. We hope to see you again next year!



Candy Cane Lane was the place to be at Spruce Meadows Christmas Market. See you next year!

Race for a Reason

Are you up for an adventure? Today, many people want a travel experience that is more than a vacation – they want to accomplish something. If you're someone who loves a challenge and a change of scene, then consider running, walking or biking for Operation Eyesight.

You can see the exciting destinations at operationeyesight.com/r4r or you can create your own trip. That's right: go on a fun-filled adventure, and raise money for Operation Eyesight at the same time! We have a fundraising tool kit with lots of ideas, and can help set up your own fundraising web page, specific to your trip.

For information, call Jennifer toll-free: 1-800-585-8265 or email her at diggensj@operationeyesight.com.

Fresh water saves lives and prevents blindness

Ann Adoyole is 70 years old, and lives in Chemakeo village in West Pokot County in Kenya. She has two sons and several



Life is very different for Ann since Operation Eyesight drilled a borehole in her village!

grandchildren. Since she came to live in this village after her marriage many years ago, she made the trek on a daily basis to fetch water from the Suam River, several kilometers from where she lives.

When it rains, the water gets muddy and dirty – yet Ann and other community members still had to fetch it because there was no other source of water. One rainy season, the villagers found

a dead body floating downstream, but this did not deter them from collecting the water. What else could they drink?

Whenever the water became extremely dirty, the villagers filtered it using locally-available materials, and purified the water by squeezing juice from sisal leaves, mixing it with the water and leaving it overnight. Ann knew the process didn't really clean the water because of the reoccurring diarrhea and other stomach ailments from which the villagers suffered.

Given the long distance to the river, Ann and the other women could make only two trips each day for water, fetching 20 liters in a plastic jerrican each trip. Over the years, she developed chronic back pain, which she believes is a result of carrying the heavy jerricans for long distances.



Today, Ann and the other villagers can keep their faces and hands clean, preventing the spread of blinding trachoma.

What a difference Ann and the other villagers see today! In late 2013, Operation Eyesight drilled a borehole which provides clean, safe water to everyone at Kalemungorok. For Ann and the rest of the community, the borehole is a blessing.

"It is like a new dawn for me! We can easily access the water for drinking, cooking and for bathing. I want to be as clean as government officials, clean and smart," she says, adding that before the borehole, the only time she wore clean clothes was when the clothes were new. Only occasionally did she risk bathing in the river, fearing attacks from crocodiles.

The battle against trachoma

Pokot is an arid county in the North Rift Valley region of Kenya, which varies from hilly steep terrain to flat lowlands. Like over 30 percent of Kenya's population living in trachoma endemic districts, many Pokot people suffer from this terrible eye condition.

Transmitted by flies and made worse by both cultural and environmental factors, trachoma infects the eyes and scars the eyelids. Over time, the eyelashes turn inwards and painfully scrape against the cornea. Left untreated, trachoma leads to blindness.

In 2011, Operation Eyesight began the implementation of a trachoma elimination project in Pokot with the goal of eradicating blinding trachoma. The project highlights the World Health Organization-endorsed **SAFE** strategy: **S**urgery, **A**ntibiotics, **F**ace-washing and **E**nvironmental infrastructure, proven to dramatically reduce the prevalence of trachoma and many other illnesses. We plan to drill boreholes and rehabilitate wells in the region as a long-term project.

In late 2013, Operation Eyesight drilled a borehole at Ngo'tut, which is fully equipped and operational, and drilled a second borehole at Ann's village, Kalemungorok. If you'd like to learn how you can help sponsor a well in the Pokot region, please contact Thérèse Takacs at **1-800-585-8265**.

Today, Ann and her community not only have water for household use but also for their herd animals. All their water containers are filled to capacity at all times! Both girls and boys can easily access water, leaving more time to study. The community and schoolchildren at Kalemungorok have been sensitized to the need to observe personal hygiene, with an emphasis on keeping their eyes clean to avoid infection.



Fresh, clean water brings smiles to all!

Ann is still in disbelief because she never thought she it would be so easy to access water. She thought she was condemned to a life with no water. This is not true anymore. "It is like living in a dream!" she says.

Securities prove to be a very special type of gift

Giving a gift of securities to Operation Eyesight last year proved doubly rewarding to longtime donor Penny Pattison. When Penny's father died in 2010, and left her some money, Penny made a bequest in her own will to Operation Eyesight with part of her inheritance. After consulting with her financial advisor, she invested some of that legacy. "And it performed wonderfully!" she says.

This year, Penny's financial advisor noted that there had been significant capital gains on the investment. Penny chose to donate the investment (almost \$16,000) to Operation Eyesight and receive a charitable tax receipt for the current amount, even though the initial investment had been quite a bit less. "I hadn't tried to make a gift of securities before, but it was very easy – I just had to fill in a form," she says. "I'm happy I was able to give the securities to Operation Eyesight, and not pay capital gains tax on them."

Having visited the Indian state of Rajasthan 30 years ago as a volunteer, Penny chose to designate her gift to Operation Eyesight's partner eye hospital there, Alakh Nayan Mandir Eye Institute. "I especially appreciated that I was given options of different projects to support. You made it easy for me," she says. "I highly recommend others talk to their financial advisors about gifts of securities. It has enabled me to make a difference to the people of Rajasthan!"



Our thanks to generous donor Penny Pattison!

Benefits to making a gift of securities

In Canada, you can donate any publicly-listed securities to a registered charitable organization like Operation Eyesight. You'll receive a tax receipt for the fair market value of your donation, as valued by the closing trading price on the day we receive the security.

Not only will your gift go to work immediately towards our mission of eliminating avoidable blindness, but your donation will be exempt from the capital gains tax that typically applies to the sale of a security. It's a fast and easy win-win process! Your financial advisor can advise you about making a gift of securities (or a bequest in your will) to Operation Eyesight; or you can contact us at **1-800-585-8265** for more information. **Thank you!**

Reaching out to Vancouver's Indo-Canadian community

Members of Vancouver's Indo-Canadian community recently had the opportunity to learn about Operation Eyesight's work, thanks to the generosity of our board chair, Dan Parlow.

Dan is a partner at Kornfeld LLP law firm, which co-sponsored the community excellence awards for The Times of Canada newspaper. The Times' readership is BC's South Asian community, so Dan was confident showcasing Operation Eyesight's work in India would find a receptive audience with this group.



Dan Parlow

"It's especially important to reach out to the Indo-Canadian community, because in their country of origin, the need for eye care is great," explains Dan. "India has a disproportionate percentage of the world's blindness, and many millions of Indians lack access to good quality health care, including eye care."

Operation Eyesight has been working in India for its entire 50-year history, and has close ties with hospital partners, governments and communities. Thanks to support from our generous donors, we work with Indian partners such as the renowned LV Prasad Eye Institute to build eye health capacity where it's needed most. "With our donors' help, the day will come when even the poorest people will get the eye care they need. The fear of blindness will be taken away from them. What a gift!" says Dan.

Thank you to Dan, Kornfeld LLP and The Times of Canada for these opportunities! Learn more about how Operation Eyesight is preventing blindness in India by visiting www.operationeyesight.com or by contacting us at 1-800-585-8265.

A 'little anchor' named Smiley

Bonny Gideon and his wife Nagamani could never have imagined that their future would be dependent upon the tiny hands that they held to teach baby steps!

The couple live in the village of Pangidigudem, located in the state of Andhra Pradesh, India, where Bonny works at a non-governmental organization. Both husband and wife suffer from irreversible vision-related problems.

About six years ago, Nagamani and Bonny became proud parents of a daughter whom they named Smiley. But when they were told that their baby was born blind from cataract, they were devastated at the thought of their child facing the same fate that they suffered.

Fortunately, when Smiley was only four months old, local doctors urged her parents to take her to Operation Eyesight's



Smiley's eyes see a bright future ahead of her, thanks to your help!

partner, LV Prasad Eye Institute. There, a doctor was able to reassure the worried parents that their baby daughter's vision-related challenges could be rectified.

Smiley underwent surgery to remove the cataracts in her eyes. A month after surgery, she regained her vision completely. Today, at almost six years old, she is able to attend school!

"Smiley is using vision correction glasses as the doctor advised, attending school and helping her mother when she returns home," says the happy father. "She reads the names of places and the numbers on the bus for us when we go out. She talks incessantly about the posters on the walls, and tells us about whatever is happening around us all along our way.

"She is the anchor to our lives; she is our eyes!"

Cataracts don't discriminate; the vision-clouding condition can lead to blindness in tiny babies, children, adults and seniors alike. Fortunately, the solution is relatively simple! Contact us to learn how you can help.

Helping hospitals move from charity to sustainability

"The best for the poorest" has been one of Operation Eyesight's guiding principles throughout our 50-year history. We believe in quality eye treatment for all, including those low or no income people who cannot afford to pay for services. Our teams strongly advocate that sub-standard care is not an alternate solution to providing quality health care in low-income countries.

In West Bengal, India, Thakur Sitaram Seva Kendra Eye Hospital is a wonderful example of how we have helped create a self-sustaining eye hospital. While the hospital began as a charitable hospital for the poor, over the last decade, it has evolved into a self-sustaining quality eye centre for the region, thanks in large part to its partnership with Operation Eyesight.

Since 2003, we've worked hard to help build the hospital's capacity and help it evolve from charity dependence to self-sustainability. Operation Eyesight has offered medical and para-medical staff clinical and managerial skills training, facility renovations and equipment acquisition. We've helped establish an optical shop and pharmacy store to provide additional revenue. Also, we've promoted standard operating protocols and guidelines for all services, which have been adapted and implemented to the highest standards. "Quality and equity" became the hospital's guiding principles!

Today, the hospital offers excellent eye care to all patients, whether they can afford it or not. Each year, over 20,000 patients are examined in the out-patient department (a growth of over 400 percent since 2003!), and over 4,000 surgeries are

performed (a growth of over 100 percent). Operation Eyesight's team has stepped back somewhat, providing technical rather than financial support and focusing on improving community health-seeking behavior through our innovative Hospital-Based Community Eye Health Program.

In the last decade alone, Operation Eyesight has been successful in transforming over 45 charitable eye hospitals in India into self-sustaining, quality eye care hospitals. They are setting standards that are being emulated by other organizations in the sector. **We could not have done this without your support... thank you!**



A renovated and rejuvenated eye hospital serves thousands every year!

Send your gift today.

You can help someone see a brighter tomorrow.

Donate online!

It's secure, easy and puts your gift to work immediately.

Go to

www.operationeyesight.com
and follow the links.

Make your gift:



By telephone: Toll-free in Canada and the USA: 1-800-585-8265



By mail: Canada:
Operation Eyesight Canada, Suite 200, 4 Parkdale Crescent NW,
Calgary, AB T2N 3T8

United States:
Operation Eyesight USA, 14900 Interurban Ave. S. Suite 271 PMB 35,
Seattle, WA 98168-4654



Fax or scan and email this form: Fax: 403-270-1899
Email: admin@operationeyesight.com



Yes! I will support Operation Eyesight's sight saving projects by making a regular monthly gift of:

\$50 \$30 \$20 \$10 Other \$ _____
(*\$5 minimum*)

Signature: _____

Date: _____

I prefer to make a one-time gift of:

\$100 \$75 \$50 \$20 Other \$ _____

Payment options:

I have enclosed my cheque payable to Operation Eyesight (or a blank cheque marked VOID to pre-authorize a Monthly Gift)

Charge my: Visa MasterCard American Express

Name on card: _____

Card number: _____

Signature: _____

Expiry date: ____/____ Security Code: _____

This donation is made on behalf of: an individual a business

My details:

Title: _____

First name: _____

Last name: _____

Address: _____

City/Town: _____

Province/State: _____

Postal/Zip code: _____

Telephone: (_____) _____

Email: _____

Please send me:

information about Legacy Giving

current Report to Donors

2014-nl1jan

Tax receipts will be issued for donations of \$20 or more unless otherwise requested.

We do not sell, trade or otherwise share our mailing lists. The information you provide will be used to keep you informed and up to date on the activities of Operation Eyesight, including our programs, special events, funding needs, and more. If you have questions about our organization or wish to be removed from any of these contacts, phone us at 1-800-585-8265 or email admin@operationeyesight.com.

I understand that my monthly donation will be automatically withdrawn from my bank account or charged to my credit card. I can change or cancel my monthly contribution at any time. To obtain a sample cancellation form, or for more information about my right to cancel a PAD Agreement, I may contact my financial institution or visit www.cdnpay.ca.

I have certain recourse rights if any debit does not comply with this agreement. For example, I have the right to receive reimbursement for any debit that is not authorized or is not consistent with this PAD Agreement. To obtain more information on my recourse rights, I may contact my financial institution or visit www.cdnpay.ca.

Please note that if more funds are received for a particular program, project or item than required, Operation Eyesight will re-allocate the funds to areas of highest priority.

Operation Eyesight is an international development organization dedicated to eliminating avoidable blindness in the developing world. For 50 years, our efforts have brought sight to more than two million people and delivered treatment to over 33 million others for a variety of potentially blinding conditions. We work in partnership with medical professionals and community development teams in Ghana, India, Kenya and Zambia to offer high-quality, comprehensive eye care services with long-lasting results.

SightLines is published three times a year by Operation Eyesight.
Editor: Lynne Dulaney, admin@operationeyesight.com

Operation Eyesight
Suite 200, 4 Parkdale Crescent NW
Calgary, AB Canada T2N 3T8
Tel: 403-283-6323 Fax: 403-270-1899 Toll-free: 1-800-585-8265
admin@operationeyesight.com

Operation Eyesight Canada is a registered charitable organization.
Canadian registration #11906 8955 RR0001
Operation Eyesight USA is a registered charitable organization.
United States registration #20-2682468

Making miracles happen

Do you believe in Christmas miracles? We certainly do! In late November, a valued donor and friend to Operation Eyesight offered a Christmas Miracle Maker Challenge to our board, staff, volunteers, donors and friends. The goal? To raise \$100,000 (which the anonymous Miracle Maker committed to match) by December 24 at midnight!

Realizing the remarkable opportunity to double their donation, those who were contacted tried to make the most generous gift they could. While the anonymous Miracle Maker chose to donate to drilling wells in Africa, there were other funding opportunities, including greatest needs projects in Africa and India; Hospital Based Eye Care Health programs; training and education; equipment; Mass Drug Administration; and eye health education.

The result? A staggering total of \$200,000 was raised to benefit our hospitals and programs in India and Africa!

"When we launched this four-week campaign, we had no idea whether we could meet our goal of raising \$100,000 in from our internal community by Christmas. That this lofty goal was met is truly inspiring," says board chair Dan Parlow. "The contributions of insiders tell people that we believe in what we do and that we have confidence in our programs and in our staff worldwide."

After the \$100,000 goal was reached, Dan revealed that Operation Eyesight's vice-chair, Rob Ohlson, was the mystery Miracle Maker who donated the matching \$100,000. Rob, president of Calgary's Maillot Homes, is a longtime supporter of the organization who has also helped initiate our Well Champion program to bring fresh, clean water to African communities.



A warm thank you to Rob Ohlson, Miracle Maker!

"Rob is working to change lives, giving his time, energy, money and sharing his passion for helping. We are most appreciative of his leadership and commitment to our mission!" says Brian Foster, executive director. "Everyone is extremely grateful for his generous support, and for all the staff, board members and friends who chose to embrace this matching opportunity. Thank you, Rob; and thank you to everyone who participated in this Christmas miracle!"

Are you interested in making a challenge to your family, friends and colleagues? Contact Thérèse Takacs at 1-800-585-8265 for information. Remember: big or small, one gift at a time adds together to give Operation Eyesight the financial strength to fulfill our mission of eliminating avoidable blindness... for all the world to see!

Join the Conversation

OperationEyesightUniversal

OpEyesightUniversal

Operation Eyesight

@OpEyesight

blog.operationeyesight.com

operation-eyesight

OpEyesight