

If it were not for hope...the heart would break.

Hope For Tomorrow

Fall 2011

Vol. 4 Issue 6

Letter from Dr. Meilman



Dear Friends:

Now we have been very busy this year. In the Spring we carried out a very successful mission to Les Cayes, Haiti, a town in the southwestern part of the island. A team of six physicians and 15 volunteers spent four days performing orthopedic surgery, general surgery, plastic surgery, and vascular surgery. We had the unique opportunity of having with us five college students who were an integral part of the surgical team. During our mission we performed over 100 surgical procedures. The trip was so successful that we are presently pursuing grant money so that we can involve students with missions on an ongoing basis and increase the number of missions each year.

Next year we are looking into carrying out a mission in Nagorno-Karabakh Republic which is located in the South Caucasus in the Eastern Armenian Highlands. The Doctors from Hope For Tomorrow will be performing surgery. The group will be meeting the local religious and political dignitaries and then travel to Rome in hopes of meeting with Pope Benedict XVI. As always anyone with interest in participating please let me know.

Hope to see as many of you as possible at our 18th annual dinner at Salvatore's on Friday, September 30th.

Again I thank all of you for your help and dedication to this fine charitable endeavor throughout the years.

~ Dr. Jeffrey Meilman, Chair



Haitian Leaders Thank Hope For Tomorrow For Donated Surgeries

At the Immaculate Conception Hospital in Les Cayes, Haiti, top officials in government and health care thanked the Hope for Tomorrow Foundation for over 100 donated plastic, vein and general surgeries for their poor and needy.



Pictured left to right: Representative for Southern Haiti for the President of Haiti Me Ketnor Estinvil, Medial Director of the Immaculate Conception Hospital Dr. Marie-Josette Calixte presenting a certificate and flowers to Board Certified Plastic Surgeon and Hope For Tomorrow Chairman Dr. Jeffrey Meilman, Les Cayes, Haiti Mayor Yvon Chary, University Orthopedics Surgeon Dr. Robert Smolinski, Director of Health for Southern Haiti Dr. Serge Louissaint and Hope For Tomorrow volunteer Debbie H. Woodman, R.N.

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Fighting Hard for Haiti

by Dr. Hratch L. Karamanoukian, *Hope for Tomorrow Foundation Board Member and President of Vein Treatment Centers in Amherst and Clarence*



Dr. Hratch L. Karamanoukian

The mission for the Hope for Tomorrow Foundation this past May was in Les Cayes, Haiti. This was very fulfilling to me professionally and also as a board member of the Hope for Tomorrow Foundation. Dr. Jeffrey Meilman and I incorporated students into the mission of the foundation. We set out with three goals: 1) to perform needed surgery, 2) to train the next generation of philanthropists and humanitarian

activists, and 3) to train local physicians to carry on much needed surgical treatments after our mission was completed.

I am happy to say on behalf of the board that we fulfilled all of our goals.

In terms of total surgical care, we triaged over 300 patients with 7 physicians. We performed over 100 surgeries. This included non cosmetic plastic surgery, general surgery, vein surgery and orthopedic procedures.

Forty two vein procedures were performed during the mission and they were all of medical necessity. None of these patients received cosmetic vein procedures. We used the latest techniques and procedures to treat venous insufficiency. All of these were ambulatory procedures and the vast majority of these patients had open wounds or ulcers.

Given the scope of the tragedy following the Haiti earthquake, there is a big void for not only necessary wound care, but also care of chronic wounds.

In this capacity, we incorporated student physician assistants from 2 local colleges. Brian Rusk was able to use his connections with Daemen College to organize a large group consisting of physician assistant and physical therapy students. The Director of the Daemen College Athletic Training program, Dr. Lynn Matthews also was instrumental bridging the gap between those needing surgery and the students who helped to deliver this.

Every one of the surgeons taught the students to suture wounds in the operating rooms in Haiti. This was a unique, hands-on experience for these students who would otherwise not get this type of personalized training until after they finished their studies.

The Daemen College students scrubbed in with the plastic surgeons, general surgery resident, orthopedic surgeons and myself. The students were also facile in Spanish and were very helpful in triaging the flow of patients into the surgical suites and providing post operative instructions to patients and family.

None of this would be possible without the continued support of our foundation sponsors. We are currently collaborating with a grants writer to assimilate student training into the overall mission of the Hope for Tomorrow Foundation. Dr. Meilman's significant connections in the community has helped thrust us forward into these new endeavors. He is a member of the Daemen College Board of Trustees and has worked closely with new President Ed Claussen.

For the second year, we are pleased to let our supporters know that we trained physicians to perform venous procedures. In 2010, we taught Vietnamese vascular surgeons the latest techniques to take care of varicose veins with foam sclerotherapy, microphlebectomy and EVLT.

In Haiti, we taught Dr. Jean-Yves both micro phlebectomy and foam sclerotherapy. I donated the instruments and chemicals and disposable supplies for him to perform this. Long after we left Haiti he will continue to provide needed vein procedures for the people of Les Cayes, Haiti.

In late August, 2012 we will be headed to Armenia to provide much needed surgical care to the Karabagh region which is at war with neighboring Azerbaijan. We are currently in contact with members of the Armenian government and the Armenian Church to allow us to deliver this care. We anticipate all of our surgical specialists to come along with the next mission to Armenia. We are hoping that Dr. Meilman, Dr. Kotlarz, Dr. Smolinski, Dr. Anders, Dr. Barsoumian and Dr. Huebschmann will join this effort.

I look forward to seeing you at the H4T dinner in September.

PLEASE JOIN US AT THE

*18th Annual
Hope for Tomorrow
Fundraiser*

Friday, September 30, 2011

Chairman

Jeffrey Meilman, MD

Salvatore's Italian Gardens



United States Ambassador to Haiti Merten Thanks Area Surgeons

Ambassador to Haiti Kenneth H. Merten thanked six Western New York doctors for donating over 100 vein, plastic, orthopedic and general surgeries for the needy at the Immaculate Conception Hospital in Les Cayes, Haiti.



Left to right: Orthopedic Surgeon Robert Smolinski, Plastic Surgeon Jack Kotlarz, University Orthopedics Surgeon Mark Anders, Plastic Surgeon Jeffrey Meilman, United States Ambassador to Republic of Haiti Kenneth H. Merten, Vein Treatment Centers of Williamsville and Clarence President Hratch Karamanoukian and Mount Saint Mary's Hospital Anesthesiologist John Huebschmann.

Hope For Tomorrow Board of Directors

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Dr. Jeffrey Meilman

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Janet Long

Michele Patterson

Brian Rusk

Richard Slisz

Davis Tiburzi

Area Students Travel to Haiti to Assist Area Surgeons

Five area college students met at the Clarence offices of the Vein Treatment Center before embarking to the Immaculate Conception Hospital in Les Cayes, Haiti to assist vein surgeon Hratch Karamanoukian, plastic surgeons Jeffrey Meilman and Jack Kotlarz, orthopedic surgeons Robert Smolinski and Mark Anders, anesthesiologist Jack Huebschmann and surgery resident Raffi Barsoumian following the horrors of the devastating Haiti earthquake last year.



Pictured left to right: Jessica Panepento, Daemen College Sophomore studying to be a nurse, from Pendleton, Daemen College Director of Athletic Training Education Program Lynn Matthews of Orchard Park, Daemen College doctoral student in Physical Therapy Erika Funnell of Tonawanda, 2009 Daemen College graduate in Natural Science Michael Mank of Tonawanda, Plastic Surgeon Jeffrey Meilman of Amherst, Vein Treatment Centers of Amherst and Clarence President and Vein Surgeon Hratch L. Karamanoukian of Elma, D'Youville College Physician Assistant fifth year student Carrie Wydysh of Tonawanda and Daemen College Physician Assistant Senior Virginia Kaufman of Amherst. Dr. Meilman is an active board member of the Hope For Tomorrow Foundation and has traveled to donate lectures and surgeries in Poland, Ecuador and Vietnam for those in need of medical care.

Hope For Tomorrow Foundation Raffle

First Prize - \$2,500 in Chips for Seneca Niagara Casino

Second Prize - 5 Days for Two in Las Vegas (includes airfare)

Third Prize - \$1,500 in Chips for Fallsview Casino

All prizes subject to availability. Drawing to be held September 30, 2011. Winner need not be present.

\$25.00 per Ticket • 5 Tickets/\$100.00

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2011 Hope For Tomorrow Honorees



Carl P. Paladino

Community Humanitarian of the Year Award – Carl Paladino, Civic Leader

As CEO of Ellicott Development Company, which he founded in 1973, and a life-long advocate of the City of Buffalo, Carl is best known for championing strategic ideas and plans to bring new life to the city and region.

To his credit, Carl has consistently invested in Western New York, beginning his career with his largest single real estate purchase to this day, the acquisition of the Ellicott Square. Now, Ellicott Development Co., owns and manages over 4.5 million total square feet of office space, retail, residential and hotel space of approximately 2 million alone in downtown Buffalo, making Carl the largest private landlord in downtown Buffalo today. Carl is a risk-taker, unafraid to pioneer strategic retail developments in the most economically depressed areas of Buffalo, Syracuse, and Albany.

Along the way, Carl has waged many battles with local governments to change the way the system promotes, attracts, and sustains economic development in our area. In doing so, he has taken more than his fair share of criticism. His leadership and vision for the revitalization of downtown Buffalo is just now beginning to take hold in the minds of both public and private sector leaders as they witness the interest and activity generated by Carl's upscale housing initiatives in the downtown core. With these new projects and many others, he challenges the downtown business community to embrace market-rate strategies for sustainable economic development and to willingly abandon the old engines of patronage and subsidy.

Carl attended St. Bonaventure University and the Syracuse University College of Law. He received his Juris Doctor degree in 1971 and traveled to Fort Bliss, Texas to serve in the U.S. Army. Carl returned to Buffalo the following year, eventually undertaking the management role for the New York City-based owners of the Ellicott Square, and establishing the law firm of Paladino, Cavan, and Quinlivan. He retired from service as a Captain in 1981.

As a successful and experienced businessman, forever loyal to the City of Buffalo, Carl is frequently sought out to share his leadership and expertise with many organizations. He is a Director of Buffalo Place, Inc., a Trustee of Bishop Timon/St. Jude high school, a Director of Buffalo Civic Auto Ramps, and a former Director of the Horizons Waterfront Commission. He is a member of the Executive Board of the Niagara Frontier Council of the Boy Scouts of America, and a former member of the Advisory Boards of Erie Community College and D'Youville College. Carl is also a former Trustee of St. Bonaventure University and past Chairman of the Buildings and Grounds Committee, having presided over the planning and construction of many of the physical improvements and renovations seen at the college today.

In 1991, Carl was honored by the City of Buffalo as Buffalonian of the Year, in 1993 as Alumnus of the Year by St. Bonaventure University and in 2008 the Business First Lifetime Achievement Award.

A life-long resident of the City of Buffalo, Carl is honored to be married to Mary Catherine Hannon and is blessed with four children: William, Danielle, Patrick and Sarah; and four grandchildren, Carl William, Grace Catherine, Claire Ryan and Nolan Lawrence.



Kenneth Timmerman

International Community Service Award – Famous Author Ken Timmerman

Best-selling author Kenneth R. Timmerman is a contributing editor for Newsmax Media who has spent his career investigating the dark side of national security.

Over the past three decades he has interviewed dissidents behind the Iron Curtain, covered numerous Middle East wars and false-hope peace treaties, interviewed suicide bombers, debriefed defectors from Iranian intelligence organizations, and covered the plight of Christians persecuted for their faith.

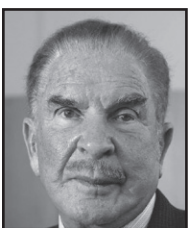
His just-released third novel, *St. Peter's Bones*, is a witness to the persecuted church in Iraq, and is based on numerous reporting trips to northern Iraq, Jordan, and Lebanon. It is a war novel with a political twist.

In April 1983, he was the first U.S. correspondent on scene when the U.S. Embassy in Lebanon was blown up by Islamic militants.

During the later half of the 1980s, he covered the Iran-Iraq war, gaining first-hand knowledge of Iraq's deadly weapons buildup. His third book, *The Death Lobby: How the West Armed Iraq* (Houghton Mifflin, 1991) was called "our Bible" by Ambassador Rolf Ekeus, chief of the UN Special Commission for the Disarmament of Iraq. After the Gulf War, Ekeus and his weapons inspectors used Timmerman's information to help locate clandestine Iraqi weapons plants and to identify their foreign suppliers.

Today, he is helping families of the victims of the September 11 attacks prepare a class action lawsuit against the government of the Islamic Republic of Iran, because of its direct, material involvement in the al Qaeda plot to attack America, a story he detailed in *Countdown to Crisis* and in several stories for Newsmax.com.

He and his wife live in Maryland and have five children.



Don Crane

Don Crane

Don Crane, successful local business owner and WWII veteran, has been making true differences in peoples' lives for decades. Don's focus has always been on the ground level and has created venues such as the Mary E. Crane Foundation to ensure help to those in need will continue. Don's current focus is a Mission settled in the jungle of South America where the main focus is the education of indigenous children whose future is questionable. Through Don's involvement, the children and teachers have food, bathrooms, and additional classrooms.

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2010 Hope For Tomorrow Charity Event



Hope For Tomorrow Recipient Huu and his father with Lee Ann Le



HFT Board Member Dr. Hratch Karamanoukian, HFT Honoree Frank Ciminelli with wife Rosalie, HFT Honoree Ambassador Earle Mack, and HFT Chairman Dr. Jeffrey Meilman



Frank and HFT Co-Chair Donna McGuire



Dr.'s Michele and Lance Pozarny



Karen and Mark Lampart



Diane and Richard Wojtowicz



Paul Michardzinski and HFT Board Member Cynthia Guzic



Dr. Jeffrey Meilman with Dr. Gary and Stephanie Wetreich

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2010 Hope For Tom



Dr. Taheri, HFT Chairman Dr. Jeffrey Meilman, Kay and Jeffrey Grace



Anne Marie and Tom Wagner with Nancy and Gerry Hooven



HFT Chairman Dr. Jeffrey Meilman and HFT Board member Dr. Hratch Karamanoukian



HFT Honoree Ambassador Earle Mack with HFT recipient Huu and his father



Susan Grelick and John Hoffman



Carl Paladino with host family Dinh Le



HFT MC Don Postles

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orrow Charity Event



Grace Ryan and Joe with Mary Carlin



HFT Recipient James Huebbers with his family and HFT Chairman Dr. Jeffrey Meilman



Kathleen Donahue and Paul Masters



Wayne Robins and Elissa Waykoff



Dr. Michelle and Chris Lenahan



Jamie and Vince Shores



Carol Gabioud and her guest



Beverly and Roy Kaczynski



Hope For Tomorrow Foundation

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Williamsville, NY 14221

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IF IT WERE NOT FOR HOPE... THE HEART WOULD BREAK

18th Annual

**NEW
GRAND
BALLROOM**

*Hope For Tomorrow
Charity Benefit*

Friday, September 30, 2011

 **Salvatore's Italian Gardens**
6461 Transit Road • Depew, New York

6:30 pm – Cocktails
7:30 pm – Dinner

Jeffrey Meilman, MD - Chairman