

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

Hope For Tomorrow

Spring 2012

Vol. 5 Issue 7

Letter from Dr. Meilman



Dear Friends:

Hope For Tomorrow has been active in our Buffalo community now for 20 years. We have performed over 2500 surgical procedures at home and abroad to give young people a chance in life. Most recently we have incorporated our efforts with some of our local colleges- Daemen and D'Youville to help expose and teach 6-10 students a year to surgery in the OR. Many of the students have felt that this experience granted was invaluable.

Later this Spring we will be emerging on a Hope For Tomorrow mission to Nagorno-Karabakh Republic in Eastern Armenia. Our Doctors will be performing 3-4 days of orthopedic, plastic and reconstructive surgery, and vein surgery. We plan to perform between 100 -200 procedures and will be accompanied by 6-8 college students. Then our group will proceed to Rome where we will join up with Huu and his father, our 2010 surgical recipient from Vietnam, and we hope to receive the blessings of Pope Benedict IV.

Anyone interested in participating in this mission please let me know.

Thanks to everyone for your help and constant support of Hope For Tomorrow throughout the years.

~ Dr. Jeffrey Meilman, Chair



NBC TV'S Ron Allen Assists Thai Girl

Ron Allen, NBC TV National Correspondent, center, interviews Hope for Tomorrow Foundation Chair Dr. Jeffrey Meilman at his Williamsville offices. Mr. Allen and his staff were very helpful in making initial contacts to bring 11 year old Bangkok, Thailand proposed surgery recipient Supatra Sasuphon to come to Buffalo on September 26, 2012 for donated surgery to remove thick hair completely covering her face. Supatra suffers from hypertrichosis and was featured recently on the Today Show nationally. There are only 50 documented cases of this since the Middle Ages.



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Hope For Tomorrow Addresses Rotary Regarding Haiti Mission

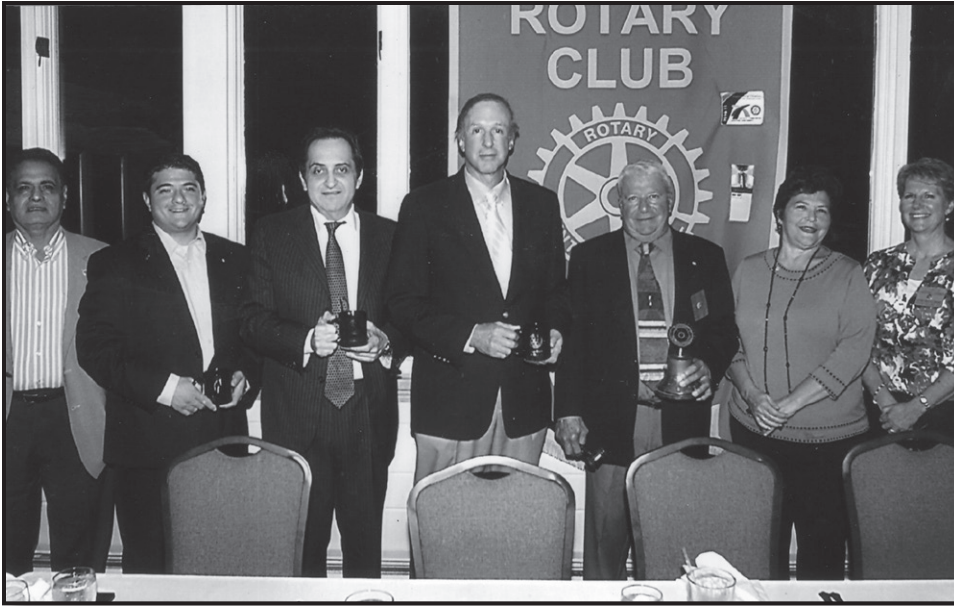


Photo caption left to right before 25 Grand Island Rotary Club members Wednesday night at the Launch Club, Grand Island as Hope for Tomorrow Foundation Chairman and Plastic Surgeon Jeffrey Meilman and Hope for Tomorrow Board Member and Vein Treatment Centers President Hrach Karamanoukian spoke of the recent donation of over 100 reconstructive, vein, orthopedic and general surgeries at the Immaculate Conception Hospital in Les Cayes, Haiti: Grand Island Rotary Club Vice President Akhtar Mirza, Secretary Joe Philippone, guest speakers Dr. Hrach Karamanoukian, Dr. Jeffrey Meilman, Grand Island Rotary President Gary Roesch, Rotary Club directors Rachel Dagastino and Chris Learman. Grand Island Rotarian John Harbison greatly assisted this Haiti humanitarian mission with the Les Cayes, Haiti Rotary Club.

Letter from Dr. Jack Huebshmann, MD

Chief of Anesthesia, Mt. St. Mary's Hospital, Lewiston NY

As I sit here preparing for our next mission, this year to Armenia, I was reflecting back on some of the past experiences. I have had the privilege to be associated with The Hope for Tomorrow foundation for five years now as an Anesthesiologist. In the beginning, I was a little unsure of what to expect, but after the first trip I was sure this was a great thing to be doing and I wanted to be part of it.

I have had the chance to work with people high in the Andes Mountains of Peru where the air was a bit thin and the country a little bland but the people were wonderful and dressed quite colorfully. Then there were the mountains of Ecuador, a place where we physically stepped across the Equator which had similar people but quite a different culture. We went out to the tiny Islands of The Galapagos and although didn't have much time for sightseeing we were able to help some children while working with a few of the local physicians. The next year I had the opportunity to work with Dr. Meilman on a young boy from Viet Nam who had a birth defect too large to take care of in country so the Foundation sponsored him to come to Buffalo and we performed the corrective surgery at my Hospital, Mt St Mary's in Lewiston. One of our administrators was recently in Viet Nam on business and stopped in to see him and said he is doing very well. The pictures she brought home attest to how well the surgery and recovery went. Last year we went to Haiti, in this case I saw a country devastated by earthquake, hurricane and years of poverty and dictatorial rule. Although this is expected it still amazes me each time I see it.

On all of these missions we spend quite some time traveling on questionable and sometimes precarious roads to the remote destinations where we work. Although this is harrowing at times it also gives me a sense for the people and culture of the people we will work on. The Hospitals we work in are reminiscent of what you might see on the TV show MASH with equipment circa the 1940's or so. My area of interest is the Anesthesia equipment. I typically find multiple pieces of equipment in various states of usability. I find this part of the challenge fun as it lets me use my engineering background in conjunction with my medical training to get the job done. After a little playing around with the machines I usually get things working enough to start although I am often resigned to manually hand pumping my anesthesia machine, I suppose the way my predecessors did 100 years ago.

This year, as mentioned, we are heading to Armenia. It will be my first trip to Europe. I am looking forward to the new opportunities, challenges and new people and culture. There is also a possibility on the way home to stop in Rome and meet the Pope. That would be quite an experience!

I would encourage anyone considering doing it in the future to take the leap.

Respectfully,

Jack Huebschmann, MD

New Board Members



Robert J. Smolinski, M.D.

Associate Professor of Clinical Orthopaedics, University at Buffalo school of Medicine

Lifelong resident of Western New York. Attended high school at Springville, Griffith Institute, graduating as valedictorian. Attended college at the University of Notre Dame graduating with honors in 1979. Attended medical school at the University at Buffalo graduating in 1983. Postdoctoral training included an internship in general surgery at Millard Fillmore Hospital (Kaleida Health), from 1983 to 1984 and residency training in the University at Buffalo orthopaedic residency program from 1984 through 1988. Was in private practice in Williamsville from 1988 to 1990. Trained in sports medicine in Cincinnati with the renowned sports medicine specialist, Frank Noyes M.D. from 1990 to 1991. Returned to Buffalo in 1991 and appointed to the full-time faculty at the University at Buffalo as the chief orthopaedic surgeon at the University at Buffalo Sports Medicine Institute. Appointed the director of the University at Buffalo Sports Medicine Institute in 1995, a position he has held since. Dr. Smolinski has been the head team physician for the University at Buffalo division of athletics since 1991. He has been the head team physician for Erie Community College since 2001. He also was the medical director for the City of Buffalo Schools athletic programs from 1995 to 2006, a position he holds again since 2010. He was a medical director for the NCAA Division I Track and Field Championships held at the University at Buffalo in 1998. He was the Director of Orthopaedics For the Medical Clinic at the World University Games in 1993. For years he has been a volunteer physician at the Empire State Games and in 2007 was appointed to the Empire State Games Medical Advisory Committee.

Under Dr. Smolinski's directorship, UB Sports Medicine, a division of UB Orthopaedics and Sportsmedicine, has become the largest Sports Medicine Group in Western New York with 12 Sports Medicine Specialists at five locations throughout Western New York (Buffalo, Amherst, West Seneca, Orchard Park and Niagara Falls). UB Orthopaedics and Sportsmedicine provides the medical care for the University at Buffalo Bulls, Buffalo Bills, Buffalo Sabres, Buffalo Bandits, Buffalo State Bengals and the Erie Community College Kats.

Dr. Smolinski lives in Orchard Park with his wife, Claudia, a radiologist at Southtown's Radiology, and their two children, Nicole 18 and Jared 12, who was adopted from Poland in 2002 following a Hope For Tomorrow Mission.



Sally Sapecky Lenahan

Sally has spent over twenty years working in business administration in the retail and printing industry. During that time, she earned a BA in psychology and communication from SUNY Buffalo. In the last ten years, she has worked as a consultant with her late husband, John, in Lenahan Associates where the goal was profit improvement, however the focus was always on people, helping them grow and evolve in their work. Joining the Hope For Tomorrow board offers her another opportunity to help people by being of service and support to Dr. Meilman and the ongoing efforts of the Foundation.

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Robert J. Smolinski, M.D.

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Famous British Actor to Receive International Humanitarian Award from Hope For Tomorrow Foundation

On Friday, September 28, 2012 the Hope for Tomorrow Foundation will present the International Community Service Award to Barry Ingham. This was announced by Hope for Tomorrow Chairman of the Board Dr. Jeffrey Meilman.

The Hope for Tomorrow Foundation began in 1992 at the request of Pope John Paul II in the Vatican. Since that time the Hope for Tomorrow Foundation has embarked on 21 humanitarian missions to third world countries donating hundreds of plastic, cataract, orthopedic and vein surgeries with hundreds of thousands of dollars in medical supplies. Dr. Meilman has led these medical missions to Jamaica, Nigeria, Tanzania, Albania, Bosnia, Cuba, Poland, Nepal, India, etc.

This 19th annual Hope for Tomorrow Charity Benefit will take place at 6:30 p.m. in the Venetian Ballroom at Salvatore's Italian Gardens, 6461 Transit Road, Depew, New York. Dinner will be served at 7:30 p.m. The dinner is black tie. The price per ticket is \$100.00 and \$1000.00 per table of ten. Checks payable to Hope for Tomorrow Foundation should be mailed to 811 Maple Road, Williamsville, New York. For more information one may call (716) 626-5300.

International Community Service Award – Barry Ingham

After serving as a Royal Artillery officer Barrie Ingham spent a year with the Manchester Library Theatre Company, followed by two years at London's Old Vic Theatre, initially as Fortinbras, graduating through several Shakespeare productions to leading roles as Cecil Farrington (*The Magistrate*), Lelie (*Sganarelle*) and Damis (*Tartuffe*). He has played leading roles in London at the Royal Shakespeare Company, the Royal National Theatre, the English Stage Company and the Mermaid Theatre Company and as leading man in many West End musicals, plays and revues.

Sir John Geilgud gave him his Broadway debut and he subsequently played in many hit musical shows in New York. He has made over 200 appearances in American and British TV and motion pictures. He combines his career as an actor with that of director and producer (notably of the record breaking *Hans Anderson* at the London Palladium).

He was professor at the University of Texas at Austin, theatre consultant to Baylor University and is artistic advisor to the Shakespeare Society of New York. His two one man shows have played worldwide. He met his wife Tarne in their first theatre jobs and they have 4 lovely daughters and too many grandchildren to count.

Barrie has received the following accolades:

- Honorary Associate Artist with the Royal Shakespeare Company
- National Theatre of Great Britain Player
- Australian Theatre Most Distinguished Actor Award
- Drama-Logue Award for the Best Performance in a Broadway Musical
- Southern California Motion Picture Council Award

2012 Hope For Tomorrow Mission Planned to Armenia

At the suggestion over many years from Hope for Tomorrow Foundation Board Member and Vein Surgeon Dr. Hratch Karamanoukian, the Hope for Tomorrow Foundation will plan to donate over 100 surgeries in Stepanakert, Armenia beginning on May 23, 2012. Planning to participate are Dr. Karamanoukian, Plastic Surgeons Jeffrey Meilman and Jack Kotlarz of Pensacola, Florida, Orthopedic Surgeons Robert Smolinski, Mark Anders and Craig Blum, Anesthesiologist Jack Huebschmann and 5 Daemen College health science students. The humanitarian mission also plans to attend an audience with Pope Benedict XVI in Rome with 5 year old Nguyen Chong Huu of Ho Chi Minh City, Vietnam. Huu was in Lewiston at Mount Saint Mary's Hospital 19 months ago for donated reconstructive surgery courtesy of Dr. Jeffrey Meilman and Dr. Jack Huebschmann. Those interested in participating with this Armenia-Vatican trip should call Tony Costantini at 886-4443.

Armenia Trip Details

Wednesday, May 23rd - Thursday, May 31st

\$4,599.00 SGL • \$3,999.00 DBL • \$3,699.00 TPL

Package Includes:

- International and Domestic airfare
- 7 nights acc. at tourist/first class hotels with breakfast daily
- Private transfers and excursions as per itinerary
- Bus and English speaking guide at disposal as per itinerary
- Meals as per itinerary (3 choice menu with wine)
- Hotel taxes and service charges
- Television crew planning to participate

**For more info, please call
ALIDI TRAVEL at 716-886-4443**

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2011 Hope For Tomorrow Charity Event



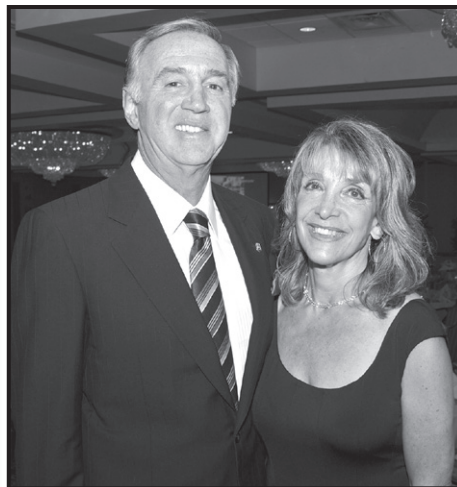
HFT Honoree Ken Timmerman, HFT Gala Chair Audrey Russ, HFT Honoree Carl Paladino, HFT Chairman Dr. Jeffrey Meilman, and HFT Honoree Don Crane



Paul Saffron, HFT Honoree Don Crane, HFT Board Member Cynthia Guzik, HFT Chairman Dr. Jeffrey Meilman



HFT Volunteers Kelly Passero and Ann Marie Wagner



HFT Board Member Anna Marie and Rocco Diina



HFT Gala Chair Audrey and Arthur Russ



Rosalie and Frank Ciminelli



Charlotte and Jack Napierski



Janice Vosburgh and Robert Tremco

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2011 Hope For Tom



HFT Board Member Dr. Hratch Karamanoukian and friends



HFT Supporter Molly Budziszewski and guests



Anne Deppeler, HFT supporter Dolly Latello, and Kathy Giaraffa



HFT Honoree Ken Timmerman, First Lady of Somalia Hodan Isse, and Dr. Riyaz Hassanali



Mary and John Carlin



Kathleen and John Gullo



Judy Cipolla and Lou Visone

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orrow Charity Event



HFT Board Member Sally Lenahan with Kay and Sheldon Lenahan



Jessica Panevento, Erika Funnell, Carrie Wydysch, Michael Mank, and Virginia Kaufman



The Honorable Penny Wolfgang and HFT Honoree Carl Paladino



HFT Supporters Janice and Dennis Galluzzo, Family Medical Pharmacy, Inc.



HFT Supporters Cheryl and Mike Rossi, Family Medical Pharmacy, Inc.



Dr. Mark Anders with his wife Diane



Diane and Richard Wojtowicz



Irma and Dan O'Connor



Hope For Tomorrow Foundation

Jeffrey Meilman, MD
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Williamsville, NY 14221


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

**VENETIAN
BALLROOM**

19th Annual
Hope For Tomorrow
Charity Benefit

Friday, September 28, 2012

 **Salvatore's Italian Gardens**
6461 Transit Road • Depew, New York
6:30 pm – Cocktails
7:30 pm – Dinner

Jeffrey Meilman, MD - Chairman