Leiv Takle gives back to the program and nurtures future docs

Leiv Takle is just the sort of physician any school of medicine would dream about to mentor its residents and fellows. Lucky for Emory Eye Center that he is part of its alumni base! Over the years, Dr. Takle ('69M, '70-73 resident) has been a gracious host, a caring mentor and an available resource to many at the Eye Center.

In the late 1980s, when Dr. Aaberg came on board as the new chairman, he established links with University departments and with state ophthalmologists to forge important professional relationships and to foster training. This was a brand new endeavor for Emory Eye Center, and Dr. Aaberg needed help from ophthalmologists within the state to get the program off the ground. Dr. Takle was there to help Dr. Aaberg in whatever way he could.

To hear Dr. Takle talk about his relationship with the Emory Eye Center alumni program, he insists that he “hasn’t done a thing.” To hear anyone else talk about what he has meant to countless residents, fellows and alums, you’ll hear a drastically different story. They know what a strong mentoring presence he has been over the years. But, to hear Dr. Takle tell it, he, in fact, was “nurtured—like so many residents—by Dr. Aaberg.” Dr. Takle states that he was made to feel useful and became more and more comfortable in participating in the alumni program.

According to Geoff Broocker (Residency Program Consultant), Leiv Takle is almost single-handedly responsible for bringing the alumni program back to life. In the mid-1990s he became president of the alumni program and “spiced it up,” as Broocker so aptly describes. “He had more active participation than any of the alumni and was aggressive in helping alumni and current residents at Emory,” says Broocker. “He was a template of positive
Dear Alumni and Friends,

As we go to press with this 2004 alumni newsletter, changes abound at Emory Eye Center. As is historically the case, there is both positive change and change that you might not wish to happen.

Paul Sternberg, Jr., as many of you know, left Emory to become chair of the Department of Ophthalmology at Vanderbilt. Our loss is Nashville’s gain. He and his family are feeling quite at home there now, and many of us are in touch with them. We wish him and Gloria all the best in their future in Tennessee.

George Waring and Keith Thompson, who have dually served on the faculty and in their private refractive surgery practice in Atlanta, have left Emory to continue in that surgical center, operating under a new name, InView. Doyle Stulting remains at Emory and heads up our first on-site refractive center, located at Emory’s Perimeter Clinic on Johnson Ferry Road. Joining him at the new Emory Laser Vision center will be Diane Song, John Kim and J. Bradley Randleman, who completed his cornea fellowship this spring. (Brad joins an impressive list of former Emory residents and fellows on our faculty: Baker Hubbard III, Dan Martin, Maria Aaron, Laura King, Theresa Kramer, Allen Beck, Tasos Costarides and Valérie Biousse.) We are excited about the many opportunities this new center will bring.

Additionally, Jiong Yan (resident ’99-02) will return in the fall to Emory Eye Center from the California coast. She completed her vitreoretinal fellowship at UCLA, before extended training in hereditary retinal diseases at Moorfields in London, England. We are thrilled to have her join our busy retina section in late summer. Camille Hylton will join our Glaucoma service in the fall also, following her galucoma fellowship at Bascom Palmer, and Paul Wong of Alberta University in Canada will become the Harris Chair in Ophthalmic Research in late summer.

As I mention in each newsletter, teaching continues to be a major emphasis within the department. This year I can proudly say that Nancy Newman has won the American Neurological Association’s Teacher of the Year Award. Henry Edelhauser and Valérie Biousse are teaching “Biology of the Eye,” an undergraduate course that they teach jointly with other Emory faculty. They’ve had their first “recruit”—an undergraduate who took the course the first year it was offered is now a second-year medical student. In fact, the course is so good that we’ve videotaped it to teach our residents an introduction to ophthalmology.

On other fronts of excellence, Scott Lambert was awarded the Claud Worth Silver Medal, the only such award given in the world. Ted Wojno and Hans Grossniklaus received the prestigious Merrill Reeh Pathology Award from the American Society of Ophthalmic Plastics and Reconstructive Surgery.
Dan Martin was presented the Rosenthal Award, given to an individual or group of individuals under 45 years of age whose work gives high promise of a notable advance in the clinical treatment of disorders of the retina. Additionally, Doyle Stulting was recently awarded the Atlanta Business Chronicle’s “Health Care Hero” award in the category of “Innovation” for his artificial cornea transplant, the first such surgery performed in the United States.

We’re proud of our physicians and of our soon-to-be physicians out in the world. They’re a caring, talented group of individuals who are all making a difference in our chosen profession.

With warmest regards,

W. Zachery Bridges, Jr., M.D.
President
Emory Eye Alumni

Letter from Zack Bridges

June 21, 2004

Recently, one of my patients noted the Emory diploma in my exam room and commented on the University’s strong medical reputation. This was not an isolated incident. Almost weekly, at least one patient will express a feeling of comfort or confidence because I received my training at Emory Eye Center. In addition, all of my ophthalmology colleagues, both locally and nationally, recognize Emory Eye Center as one of the leading programs in the country. I never could have imagined these long-term benefits of my association with Emory when I began my training in 1992.

We all have benefitted both directly and indirectly from our training at the Eye Center. This relationship with Emory continues to evolve. As Dr. Aaberg points out in this edition of the newsletter, the Eye Center is not a static institution. It continually changes to maintain its position as a center of excellence for patient care, research, and resident/fellow training.

As president of the Emory Eye Association, I would like to see our relationship with the Eye Center continue to strengthen. Dr. Leiv Takle has set the standard for support and participation with Emory. He should certainly be commended for his efforts. Although we cannot all commit the same time and effort as Dr. Takle, we should all attempt to support the Eye Center in some fashion. This can be as involved as volunteering your time at Grady or as simple as attending one of our member functions in the future (see page 8). There are numerous ways to reconnect to and support Emory.

Trust me, your support will end up benefitting you in ways you never imagined.

Sincerely,

W. Zachery Bridges, Jr., M.D.
President
Emory Eye Alumni
Alumni

2003
Graduating Residents

Here are our alumni and where they are now:

Nicholas Anderson
Wills Eye Hospital

Douglas Blackmon
Duke University Eye Center
Durham, N.C.

Susanne Hewitt
Cornea Fellow
Emory Eye Center

Saxton Moss
Western Carolina
Eye Associates
Boone, N.C.

Kathryn Reed
The Eye Group
Fort Smith, Ark.

Class Notes

Maria Mendicino Aaron (resident ’96-99) and husband Wayne have another baby girl, Ashley Brooke, born January 16, 2003. Our last issue announced the birth of sister, Christina Marie, who is now 2½ years old!

Kyle Balch (resident ’94-97) has moved from Panama City, Fla., to Gainesville, Fla., where he practices with Gainesville Eye Physicians.

Jim Bedrick (fellow ’81-82) has been appointed Clinical Assistant Professor of Ophthalmology at Emory School of Medicine. Jim and daughter Emily co-authored and presented “Preoperative Blue Field Eutopic Testing of Macular Holes” at the annual Southeastern Vitreoretinal Symposium at Emory Eye Center in 2002. Emily graduated from Northwestern University School of Medicine and will pursue a career in ophthalmology. Jim’s son Jonathon is enjoying his studies at Emory (business major).

Curtis Benton, Jr. (’42C-’45M, resident ’45-48) has retired and moved to Knoxville, Tenn. Saying that he’s not yet ready to quit working in the eye field yet, he’s working as an ophthalmic technician for Southeast Retina Associates in Knoxville. His recent honors (2001) include the J. Lawton Smith Recognition Award from the Christian Ophthalmology Society and Volunteer of the Year from the Broward County (Fla.) Health Department. He also serves on the Medical Assisting Advisory Board at South College in Knoxville, Tenn.

Valérie Biousse (resident ’98-02) was named the Cyrus H. Stoner Professor of Ophthalmology at Emory Eye Center. She serves in Neuro-ophthalmology.

Carol Boerner (“Kid”) (resident ’78-81) is in semi-retirement and now practices as the only ophthalmologist in a town in rural New Hampshire near her mini-farm in Vermont—she loves it! She presented “Systemic Treatment of Dry Eyes with Meibomianitis with Flax Seed Oil” at the New England Ophthalmology Society in Boston in 2002. She has worked for eight years on this treatment modality, which is successful in helping the majority of dry-eye patients, she says.

C. Bradley Bowman (cornea fellow ’93-94) was selected as one of the five best LASIK surgeons in Dallas by D-Magazine and was listed in “Best Doctors in America” (2000-03). He is the team doctor for the Texas Rangers Baseball Club.

Randolph L. Carter, Jr. (’55-59M, resident ’62-65) has a new home in Amelia Island Plantation in Florida.

Harold Climenhaga (cornea fellow ’85-86) was awarded the Queen Elizabeth Golden Jubilee Medal, presented for charitable work in eye care.
Here are our newest alumni and where they are now:

**Claxton Baer**  
*Retina Fellowship*  
Duke Eye Center

**Daniel Chang**  
*Cornea Fellowship*  
Minnesota Eye Consultants

**Eric Gershenbaum**  
Private Practice  
Freehold, N.J.

**Sean Pieramici**  
Clinical Instructor  
Emory Eye Center

**Jennifer Scruggs**  
Oculoplastics  
New York City

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- **Michael Collins** (resident ’97-00) has been director of Cornea and Refractive Surgery at Eye Physicians and Surgeons of Florida since 2001. He and wife Kristin have had two daughters, Elizabeth Claire, born in 2000, and Sarah Austin, born in 2002.

- **Anastasios Costarides** (resident ’94-97) and wife Anna Casanova had their first baby, a girl (Sophia), born in summer 2003.

- **Paul Dickinson** (resident ’93-96), who lives in Winston-Salem, N.C., presented “Increased Capsular Fibrosis and Complications with the Collamer Lens Implant” at the American Society of Cataract and Refractive Surgery (ASCRS) conference in 2002.

- **Lindy DuBois**, MEd, MMSc (’94), CO, COMT, will receive the American Academy of Ophthalmology’s Achievement Award this year. This award “recognizes individuals for their contributions to the Academy.” Lindy has written several AAO instructive monographs and a technician training video and has served on the Allied Health Education Committee since 1998.

- **Randy J. Epstein** (cornea fellow ’84-86) was the Emory Eye Center’s alumni lecturer in summer 2002. He was listed in “Best Doctors in Chicago” that same year and in 2003 was included in America’s Top Doctors. In 2003 he was named to the Editorial Board of the Review of Refractive Surgery and to the Editorial Board of the journal Cornea in 2004.

- **Andrew Feinstein** (resident ’96-99) practices in Atlanta, and he and wife Whitney have two children: Ryan, now 3, and William, 1 year.

- **George Fivgas** (resident ’95-98) was married January 18, 2003, to Mary Stringfellow, MD. Dr. Stringfellow completed training in hematology/oncology at Emory University and has now moved to Baton Rouge, La. to be with George. She is practicing at the Ochsner Clinic there.

- **Jeffrey Goldstein** (resident ’95-98) and wife Carolyn had a son, Solomon Barron Goldstein, born May 4, 2001. They reside in Asheville, N.C., where he is in practice with Asheville Eye Associates.

- **Peter Gordon** (’79M, resident ’80-83), residing in Atlanta, was president of the Georgia Society of Ophthalmology in 2000-01 and 2001-02.

- **Kevin C. Greenidge** (resident ’78-81) has been appointed the first Richard C. Troutman, MD Distinguished Chair in Ophthalmology and Ophthalmic Microsurgery at the State University of New York Downstate Medical Center.

- **Michael L. Haney, MD** (’70 Ox-’72C-’76M, resident ’77-80) opened a new office with a two-room ambulatory surgery center in Thomasville, Ga., in 2001.

- **David J. Harris, Jr.** (Cornea Fellow ’86-87) is serving as a consultant to NASA for the International Space Station.

- **Christopher Lawrence Haupert** (resident ’95-98) and wife Wendy had a second daughter, Melanie Louise, born April 6, 2002.
2003
Graduating Fellows
Graduating fellows and where they are now:

**Batool Jafri**
Cornea Fellow
Redondo Beach, Calif.

**Julio Narvaez**
Cornea Fellow
Loma Linda University
Loma Linda, Calif.

**Rebecca Sands**
Pediatric Fellow
University of Colorado Health Sciences Center
Aurora, Colo.

**Brian Sippy**
Retina Fellow
Pathology Fellow
Rocky Mountain Eye Center
Missoula, Mont.

**Bentley Skibell**
Neuro-ophthalmology Fellow
Houston, Texas

**Renzo Zalvidar**
Pathology Fellow
Department of Ophthalmology
Mayo Clinic
Rochester, Minn.

**Jeffrey Kay** (glaucoma fellow ’89-90) changed the name of his practice in Tucson to Arizona Glaucoma Specialists.

**Terry Kim** (resident ’93-96) was awarded an NIH/NEI RO1 grant titled “New Biomaterials for Sutureless Ophthalmic Surgeries” and was invited to join the editorial board for the journal *Cornea*.

**Laura J. King** (resident ’83-86) earned her Masters in Medical Management from Tulane School of Public Health and Tropical Medicine in 2002. She received her Certified Physician Executive designation from the American College of Physician Executives in 2003. She was awarded the AAO Achievement Award in May 2003.

**William Lahnners** (resident ’97-00) and his wife, Crystal, have a son, William Louis Lahnners, born June 17, 2002, and a daughter, Ella Grace Lahnners, born March 5, 2004.

**Daniel Martin** (resident ’87-90) heads up Emory Eye Center’s Retina Service and was named to the Thomas M. Aaberg, Sr. Chair in Ophthalmology.

**Edward C. Mattison** (resident ’69-71) has a new partner, Boris Ilq, MD and two new grandchildren. He lives in Anderson, S.C.

**Julio Narvaez** (cornea fellow ’02-03) is an assistant professor at Loma Linda University, where he is principal investigator for NIDEK hyperopia and hyperopia astigmatism LASIK trials. He volunteers on Mercy Ships and has provided surgical and medical eye care in Belize, Central America, among other volunteer activities.

**David O’Day** (resident ’89-92) opened a new office in Mount Pleasant, S.C., in 2001. He began performing excimer laser procedures in 2002, and with the new office, he says, he and staff are a fully functioning subspecialty cornea and refractive surgery practice with four offices in Charleston and Myrtle Beach, S.C.

**K.M. Nardelli-Olkowska’s** (resident ’77-80, glaucoma fellow ’80-81) husband Zbigniew, a radiology oncologist at Emory, died March 22, 2004.

**Timothy Olsen** (retina fellow ’94-96) was busy during 2003. He was Visiting Professor at the following institutions: Emory University, University of South Carolina and the Mayo Clinic.

**Arthur C. Perry** (’73M, resident ’74-77) was the invited speaker at the South African Academy of Ophthalmology in Durbin, South Africa (March 2002). Daughter Paige married in 2003; son Phillip graduated from Duke in 2002; and son Blake was the first freshman in Princeton University football history to be a starter in his first game as a freshman.

**Dante Pieramici** (retina fellow ’95-96) published a textbook, *Ocular Trauma: Principles and Practice*. He and wife Ann welcomed their second child, Lily Danielle Pieramici, on March 24, 2002.

**Fumio Shiraga** (visiting professor ’98-99) is professor and chairman of the Department of Ophthalmology, Kagawa Medical University, Kagawa, Japan.
■ Norman F. Stambaugh (‘50M, resident ’51-54) is enjoying his retirement in beautiful Deland, Fla., with wife Ann.
■ R. Doyle Stulting (cornea fellow ’81-82) received the prestigious “Health Care Hero” award from the Atlanta Business Chronicle in the “Innovation” category as a result of performing the first artificial cornea transplant in the United States, using the AlphaCor device. Coincidentally, the PI for that device’s development was Geoffrey Crawford (cornea fellow ’83-84). This May Dr. Stulting also opened Emory Laser Vision, a refractive surgery center located on the northside of Atlanta at Emory’s Perimeter Clinic location. J. Bradley Randleman (cornea fellow ’04) joins him in the practice.
■ Robert J. Weiss (resident ’76-79) is president of Warren General Hospital, in Warren, Pa.
■ John A. Wells, Jr. (resident ’66-69) is practicing ophthalmology three days a week with son Jack and teaches residents at the V.A. one day each week.
■ Ralph E. Wesley (oculoplastics fellow ’78-79) is past president of the American Society of Ophthalmic Plastic and Reconstructive Surgery. He is Chairman of the Board of the Tennessee Medical Association and is clinical professor of ophthalmology at Vanderbilt University Medical Center and at the University of Tennessee Medical Center. In 2003 he received the Distinguished Physician Service Award from the Tennessee Medical Association. He has four children, with second son Tim a 1999 Emory graduate.

2003 Southeastern Vitreoretinal Seminar was held Feb. 7 with Baruch D. (Barry) Kupperman, MD/PhD as the keynote speaker.
Residents Day 2003

Residents Weekend 2003 was held June 6 and 7 and began with the always-popular residents golf tournament.

The scientific session in which the Second- and Third-Year residents presented their scientific research was well attended by faculty, fellows, volunteer faculty, and residents. The session guest lecturer, Terrence P. O’Brien, MD from the Wilmer Eye Institute (Johns Hopkins), presented “Newer Paradigms in Diagnosis and Therapy of Microbial Keratitis.” The awards for best papers were presented to Doug Blackmon (Best Third-Year) and to Jennifer Scruggs (Best Second-Year). Both awards were presented at the dinner on Saturday night by Dr. Leiv Takle, Sr. (Res. ’70-73).

Leiv Takle also presented two awards of his own at the dinner—the residents second-runner-up papers—Nick Anderson (Best Third-Year) and Claxton Baer (Best Second-Year).

Residents Day 2004

Resident’s Weekend 2004 was held June 4 and 5.

This year’s scientific session featured guest lecturer Peter A. Netland, MD from the University of Tennessee who presented “Management of Problem Blebs.”

Following a comic video, a send-up of The Apprentice TV show, Leiv Takle, Sr. presented the awards for best Second-Year presentation to Keith Shuler and Best Third-Year presentation to Jennifer Scruggs. And again he gave his own “runner-up” awards for the second best papers — Daniel Chang (Third-Year) and Hunter Cherwek (Second-Year).
Recent faculty awards

- **Thomas Aaberg, Sr.** – inducted into Alpha Omega Alpha, National Medical Honor Society.
- **Allen Beck** – AAO’s Senior Achievement Award, 2003.
- **Valérie Biousse** – elected to the American Neurological Association.
- **Jeffrey Boatright, PhD** – elected to Biochemistry/Molecular Biology Program Committee for the Association for Research in Vision and Ophthalmology (ARVO).
- **Hans Grossniklaus** – completed “Internet Based Eye Pathology Teaching Initiative” grant; Heed Foundation Award in 2002; Secretariat Award, AAO, 2003; Merrill-Reeh Pathology Award, 2003; AAO’s Senior Achievement Award, 2003.
- **Henry Edelhauser, PhD** – Mildred Weisenfeld Award for 16 years as Research Award Committee Chairman for “Fight for Sight.”
- **Theresa Kramer** – received an MBA from the Emory University Goizueta School of Business.
- **Scott Lambert** – the Claud Worth Award for contributions in pediatric ophthalmology.
- **Dan Martin** – the coveted Rosenthal Award, presented to a young retina specialist who has made important contributions in his or her young career. Additionally, in October 2003, he was named the Thomas M. Aaberg Professor of Ophthalmology, the endowed chair previously held by Paul Sternberg.
- **R. Doyle Stulting** – editor of the journal *Cornea*; co-medical director of the Georgia Eye Bank. He was also winner of the 2004 *Atlanta Business Chronicle*’s Health-Care Hero award in the category “Innovation” for his artificial cornea transplant (see page 12).
- **Ted Wojno** – Merrill Reeh Pathology Award, 2003.

AMD Symposium/Carter Center

*A 2002 public symposium at The Carter Center brought in some 400 folks who were eager to hear the latest on research and treatment for age-related macular degeneration. Here, Drs. Dan Martin, Paul Sternberg, Dean Jones (a nutritionist at Emory School of Medicine) and Thomas Aaberg discuss findings.*
Estate gifts top donor news at the Eye Center

Louise Simpson, 1916-2003

The last two years have been fortunate ones for Emory Eye Center. Significant gifts have come in from various sources that will enable us to continue on our path of research and clinical excellence. Last year we received $1 million, an initial payment on a $3 million pledge from the M. L. Simpson Foundation. Ms. Simpson was a former patient of Dr. Aaberg. The gift will create the Simpson Chair in Ophthalmology, used to recruit a physician/researcher specializing in diseases of the retina, with an emphasis on macular degeneration.

Emory Eye Center receives $3 million bequest from newspaper executive Lewis Stanley Whitaker

In 2002 we received a bequest of more than $3 million from the estate of Lewis Stanley Whitaker and his wife, Myrna Newell Whitaker. A long-time newspaper man and former Atlanta resident, Whitaker was an executive with UPI. The endowment he set up will foster research and treatment of eye disease through the Lewis Stanley and Myrna Newell Whitaker Endowment Fund.

Life insurance executive leaves money for macular research

In October 2003, Emory Eye Center was pleased to be the recipient of a wonderful estate gift from R. Howard Dobbs. Mr. Dobbs, who suffered from advanced macular degeneration, left Emory a gift of more than $6 million to study the disease. The gift will become part of the Eye Center’s endowment and will be used to recruit physicians/scientists who specialize in macular disease and diseases of the retina.
In 2002 Nancy J. Newman, neuro-ophthalmologist at Emory Eye Center, was appointed to the LeoDelle Jolley Chair of Ophthalmology. The chair was created after the death of Mrs. Jolley in 2001. A patient of Dr. Aaberg, she had made estate plans in 2003 for a significant gift to Emory. At the formal announcement of the chair, School of Medicine Dean Thomas Lawley said, “Dr. Newman is one of the priceless treasures at the Emory School of Medicine. She is a compassionate and brilliant clinician and researcher. But she is also a teacher, and a teacher without peer. She was named Teacher of the Year by the SOM First-Year Class in 1992 and again by Eye Center residents in 1994.” In 2003, Dr. Newman was honored with the American Neurological Association’s Distinguished Teacher Award.

Emory laser vision now open

A new state-of-the-art refractive surgery center opened May 11 at The Emory Clinic, Perimeter. Joining Dr. Stulting, who serves as its medical director, are Diane Song, MD, John Kim, MD and J. Bradley Randleman, MD. Offering CustomCornea™ and Allegretto Wave™, the Emory Laser Vision staff is dedicated to offering superior technology and the highest level of patient care.

Chief technologist Mary Gemmill retires

Mary Gemmill, MMSc, CO, COMT, ROUB, retired in September 2004 after nearly 25 years of service to the Emory Eye Center. She graduated from Emory’s Ophthalmic Technologist and Orthoptics Training Program in 1980 and was the Chief Technologist and Clinical Supervisor in the Emory Eye Center for many years. After the original training program closed in the late-80s, Mary re-established the Ophthalmic Technology Program as a graduate program in the Allied Health Division of the School of Medicine and served as its program director and primary instructor. The first Master’s degrees were awarded in 1994. Mary and Lindy Dubois, who is still at Emory, were the first recipients of this MMSc degree.

Some 30 MMSc degrees have been awarded since then. Mary also taught ophthalmology residents, was the Principal Investigator or Coordinator on many clinical trials, assisted clinic administrators, and mentored countless technicians, students, and residents. She will be greatly missed.

At a recent luncheon honoring the gift of LeoDelle Jolley, her son Fleming Jolley (4th from left) joins L to R: Valérie Biousse, MD, his sister Malinda Mortin, Nancy Newman, MD, Dean Thomas Lawley of the Emory School of Medicine and Thomas Aaberg, MD, director of Emory Eye Center.
New faculty

Valérie Biousse, MD (neuro-ophthalmology) received her medical degree from the University of Paris VI in Paris, France. She also holds a master of science from the same university.

Dr. Biousse trained as an academic neurologist in Paris, where she also completed a stroke fellowship. She came to Emory for a clinical-research fellowship in neuro-ophthalmology and subsequently completed an internal medicine internship and an ophthalmology residency at Emory University. She is boarded in both ophthalmology and neurology. During her training, she earned multiple awards, including the French Stroke Society Award and both the Fellow Award and The Young Investigator Award from the North American Neuro-Ophthalmology Society.

Dr. Biousse has clinical interests in optic nerve diseases, ocular and cerebral vascular diseases, and other diseases involving the intracranial visual system. Her research interest is in cerebral and ocular vascular diseases. She is a member of the American Academy of Ophthalmology, the American Academy of Neurology, the North American Neuro-Ophthalmology Society, The International Neuro-Ophthalmology Society, the American Heart Association, the French Society of Neurology, and the French Stroke Society.

Amy Hutchinson, MD (pediatric ophthalmology and strabismus) received her medical degree from The Medical College of Georgia in Augusta, Ga. She completed her internship at Georgia Baptist Medical Center in Atlanta, Ga., and her ophthalmology residency at Emory University.

She has completed fellowships in Ophthalmic Pathology at Emory University and in Pediatric Ophthalmology and Strabismus at the Medical University of South Carolina in Charleston, S.C. Dr. Hutchinson was formerly an Associate Professor of Ophthalmology at the Medical University of South Carolina, where she also served as residency program director.

Dr. Hutchinson’s clinical and research interests include pediatric and adult strabismus, retinopathy of prematurity, and pediatric refractive surgery. She is board certified in ophthalmology and is a fellow of the American Academy of Ophthalmology and a member of the American Association of Pediatric Ophthalmology and Strabismus.
Joung (John) Kim, MD (comprehensive ophthalmology section) is a graduate of Johns Hopkins University, and he received his medical degree from the University of Maryland School of Medicine. He completed an internal medicine internship at the Mercy Medical Center, Baltimore and an ophthalmology residency at the Eye and Ear Institute of the University of Pittsburgh. Following four years in private practice, he completed a fellowship in cornea, external disease, and refractive surgery at the Cincinnati Eye Institute with Dr. Edward Holland.

Dr. Kim specializes in cataract surgery as well as the medical and surgical management of corneal diseases. He has a clinical interest in the management of patients with severe ocular surface disease. He is board certified by the American Board of Ophthalmology. He is a member of the American Academy of Ophthalmology, the American Society of Cataract and Refractive Surgery, and the Alpha Omega Alpha honor society.

C. Robert (Rob) Bernardino, MD (oculoplastics) received his medical degree from Jefferson Medical College in Philadelphia. He completed his ophthalmology residency at Wills Eye Hospital in Philadelphia, where he served as Chief Resident in 2000-2001. He completed his fellowship in Ophthalmic Oculoplastics at Massachusetts Eye and Ear Infirmary in Boston, 2001-2003.

Dr. Bernardino’s clinical and research interests include thyroid eye disease and orbital disease. He holds current grants in orbital disease from Prevent Blindness America and the National Organization of Rare Diseases. Additionally, he has presented numerous lectures and co-authored papers on orbital diseases, disorders, trauma, and reconstruction. At Massachusetts Eye and Ear Infirmary, he was course director and instructor in several courses for medical residents. Dr. Bernardino also served as director of Esperanza, a free ophthalmology clinic serving the Philadelphia Hispanic community.

Dr. Bernardino is a member of the Council of Representatives of the Candidate and Associate Society of the American College of Surgeons and NEON (National Eyecare Outcomes Network) Palm Pilot Project of the American Academy of Ophthalmology.

He is board certified by the American Board of Ophthalmology. He is a member of both the American Academy of Ophthalmology and the American Medical Association.

New online alumni directory

As many of you already know, we have just put up an online alumni directory—that can be accessed 24/7! All you need to do is go to the Emory Eye Center site: www.eyecenter.emory.edu and click on “Research and Education” on the home page. On the “Research & Education” page, click on “Education” and then on “Alumni,” which appears in the horizontal menu bar. You will be asked for the password (“eyealum”). Or you may go to this URL first: http://www.eyecenter.emory.edu/Research_and_Education/Education/alumni_frame.html
All eyes are on us—again!

U.S. News & World Report named Emory as one of the country’s top eye centers in its July 12, 2004, issue, the ninth year in a row that the news magazine has included Emory in its ophthalmology ranking.

In addition, Ophthalmology Times, a semi-monthly newspaper written and reviewed by ophthalmologists, named the Emory Eye Center in the category of “Best clinical (patient) program” as 9th and in the category “Best residency (teaching) program” as 6th in its Nov. 1, 2003, rankings.

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Continued from page 1

behavior.” And the program as it stands today is a testament to his diligence.

Since 1997 Dr. Takle has opened up his home near Griffin, Ga., and hosted an annual fall party for residents. There is a spread of sumptuous food under a large tent, and residents and their families have access to his beautiful farm—complete with horses for riding, plane rides for scanning the countryside, skeet shooting and a popular hayride for all ages. Under the tent, young and old meet over barbecue and trade stories. And the children in tow have a grand time.

This generosity was fostered, as Dr. Takle says, by Al North’s (Neurosensory Fellow ’63-64, Resident ’64-67) open house for residents many years ago. Dr. Takle thought he should follow North’s example, and he also invited faculty members and families. The event has become larger each year, with last year’s attendance at nearly 100.

This past year, his 30th anniversary in practice in Griffin was the perfect occasion to present him with a commemoration for his many years of dedication. An appropriate gift—a weathervane depicting a country doctor with horse and carriage—was presented to Dr. Takle at his annual party.

“Leiv Takle has been instrumental in keeping our alumni program going,” says Thomas M. Aaberg, Sr. “He is the heart and soul of the alumni association as it is translated to current residents. He effectively fosters the feeling of esprit de corps among our alumni to the current residents, who then in turn develop it also.

“His actions and involvement allow our current residents to feel good about the program, as they see those who have gone on beyond the Emory walls are still excited about the program. Because of Leiv’s continued interactions with our current trainees—not only the party at his farm, but also his involvement with our Residents Day—these young residents come to value the program in a way that they wouldn’t otherwise.”

“Alumni involvement is absolutely essential in the continuing education of our residents at Emory Eye Center,” says Maria Aaron (Resident ’96-99), director of the residency program. “Leiv gives of his time and energy; he has donated computers for our Learning Resources Center so that residents always have a computer to log onto, and he has also awarded additional prizes to our residents during the annual Residents Day ‘Best Research Paper’ awards.”

Takle says that there is so much good writing by our talented residents that he thinks the first runner-ups deserve recognition too. And he is there, true to form, to give them his appreciation in tangible form.
Scott Lambert enjoys conversation with Kyle Balch (resident ’94-97).

Edward Abou-Jaoude (cornea fellow ’01-02) greets Woodford VanMeter (cornea fellow ’83-84) in sunny Orlando.

A lively group gathers near poolside. They are, L to R: Allen Beck (resident ’90-93, glaucoma fellow ’93-94), Tony Johnson (cornea fellow ’00-02), Edward Abou-Jaoude (cornea fellow ’01-02), Tom Aaberg, Sr., Gerardo Artunduaga (cornea & external disease fellow ’93) and wife María.

Sadeer Hannush (cornea fellow ’87-88) and wife Lorena join Nilda Burns and Silvino Díaz-Mendoza (cornea fellow ’87-88).

Vicki and Art Perry (resident ’74-77) chat with Susan and Stan Hall (’66C, resident ’75-78).

Classmates Mike Collins (resident ’97-00) with Bill Lahners (resident ’97-00) and Maria Aaron (resident ’96-99).

Tom Aaberg, Sr. and Joe Dickinson (resident ’93-96) discuss the day’s events.