

Newsletter
Winter 2025

- Our Mission
- Hawaii 2025
- Philip M. Corboy
M.D. Memorial
Award Winner

Eye Mission of the Pacific

John M. Corboy M.D.
Foundation



Eye Mission of the Pacific, Inc.

www.eyemissionofthepacific.org

Facebook: Eye Mission of the Pacific

Welcome to Winter of 2025



Dr. John Corboy, founder of the Eye Mission of the Pacific and the Hawaiian Meeting with board member Dr. Bob Miller in Viet Nam.

Thank you to all our friends for taking time to follow us and contribute to our foundation. We are very excited for the New Year of 2025. We are looking forward to seeing our old friends at the annual Hawaiian Eye Meeting to be held in Kauai in January. For the fourth year our foundation will attendance at booth 102 on Retina Row.

We continue to receive great support from our good friends at **Healio Inc.** supporting the format the annual Philip M. Corboy Memorial Award.

We also continue our partnership with **Carl Zeiss Meditect.** Zeiss sponsors the annual **Philip M. Corboy M.D. Memorial Award for Distinguished Service** in Ophthalmology. The 2024 award was presented to Dr. Steven C. Schallhorn during last year's meeting. Dr. Schallhorn was the 39th recipient of the award. This January 2025, Dr. John Corboy along with his son Matthew Corboy will present the award named for his father and grandfather respectively. The award is to be presented during the meeting's general session on Wednesday January 22nd.

Help us, help them!



Our founder, Dr. John Corboy started this meeting over 45 years ago for two primary reasons: **One**, to provide a meeting that featured alternative content that was beyond just clinical. This included "Lifestyle" sessions where ophthalmologists could share thoughts on their personal lives outside the practice. "Banyan Tree" sessions where attendees could meet with discussion leaders on multiple topics were also held. **The Second** reason was to raise money to fund eye missions to areas in the Pacific Rim.

Though mission work has been paused due to travel restrictions for the past few years, we were able to support a mission in Mexico last year. We plan to continue with our work in 2025 and will share our mission details soon.

*"Island by island, throughout the Pacific, we help people see",
Dr. John Corboy.*

Our Mission

Eye Mission of the Pacific serves people of the Pacific who suffer from vision loss. The foundation provides dedicated volunteer eye surgeons and support staff who bring their expertise, talent, and loving care to those who may have no other treatment options.

Founder Dr. John M. Corboy, a world-known ophthalmologist from Hawaii began mission work over 40 years ago. Through his efforts, thousands of patients in the region have received treatment.

Eye Mission of the Pacific has a clear goal: Island by island, throughout the Pacific, we help people see.

Eye Mission of the Pacific is a major supporter of the Lancaster Course of Harvard University which trains ophthalmologists in training. This highly regarded course is open to US and International ophthalmic residents. This seven-week course is intended to provide contemporary and extensive coverage of the basic sciences and clinical sciences in Ophthalmology. Founded in 1946, the Lancaster Course has provided training for ophthalmologists from all over the world; many teaching hospitals supplement their residency training programs with the Lancaster Course.



EMP Board Member Dr. Robert Miller completes his care with a hug for a patient in Mexico.

Steven C. Schallhorn MD receives the Philip M. Corboy Memorial Award



“That we save eyes, save sight and improve sight — it's really incredible.”

Steven C. Schallhorn, MD

at *Hawaiian Eye and Retina* 2024

Eye Mission of the Pacific was proud to present Dr. Steven C. Schallhorn as the recipient of the Philip M. Corboy M.D. award for Distinguished Service in Ophthalmology for 2024. Dr. Schallhorn is the 39th awardee of this honor which was first given in 1986.

The Philip M. Corboy, M.D., Award for Ophthalmology was established in 1986 and has been presented at the Hawaiian Eye Meeting each January since then. The Award became the Philip M. Corboy, M.D. Memorial Award in 1992. Thirty nine awards have been presented to the most deserving in ophthalmology. One of the best-known American ophthalmologists, Dr. Schallhorn was presented the award during the 2024 meeting held on the Island of Maui this past January.

Dr. Steve Schallhorn's accomplishments are incredible. Among them is the fact that Steve pushed thru a Navy program to provide the best vision possible for service members. Not to just pilots and potential pilots, but to Marines, soldiers and airmen engaged in combat in two wars. He was a study participant in the Navy Seal program that was instrumental in FDA approval of the excimer laser. All this, while he was still a resident. Maybe because of his clout:

Dr. Schallhorn is also an accomplished Naval Aviator with over 2500 hours in an F-14 Tomcat fighter aircraft. He also served as a Topgun instructor for the U.S. Navy Warfighters School.

Steve went on to create the program that was adopted by the Navy, Army and Air Force that resulted in treatment of thousands of those that go into harm's way. Captain Schallhorn was made adjunct to the Navy Surgeon General. After Steve's retirement he went on to oversee the refractive program for Optical Express, the world's largest provider of Laser Vision Treatment. His accumulated data was later presented to congress to defend the FDA approval of the treatment.

For a complete story on the Philip M. Corboy M.D. award and more information on this year's winner, please visit Eye Mission of the Pacific website: www.eyemissionofthepacific.org

Our Advocates

Advocates are what we call our supporters who provided monetary donations and or other aid. This could be directly or indirectly.

An Advocate is an excellent way to contribute to the fight against vision loss. In so many countries around the world, eye healthcare is not automatically provided. What we take for granted here can be very difficult to obtain in other parts of the world.

Eye Mission of the Pacific appreciates all the help we get! Please consider helping us by becoming an EMP Advocate. You can become an Advocate in a several ways:

1. Become a volunteer on one of our missions. Once the mission is complete, you will be an Advocate for the next year.
2. Become a sustaining donor of at least \$50 per month or choose to make a one-time donation of \$600 or more annually.
3. Choose to become a sustaining donor annually.

Please consider becoming an Eye Mission of the Pacific Advocate. Please follow this link and sign up today:

<https://www.eyemissionofthepacific.org/become-an-advocate/>

Did you know?

Our mission staff is completely voluntary.

And our mission volunteers cover their own costs.



Giving

Eye Mission of the Pacific counts on your contributions and volunteer support. Both are literally the life blood of our foundation. While our volunteers are the fuel of our engine, we still need funds for many other things: Supplies, shipping, postage, accountant services, web services and brochures to name a few. There is no donation that is too small.

We accept credit cards, PayPal, and checks. We are a recognized non-profit 501(c)3 corporation and donations are tax deductible.

Please go to our website www.eyemissionofthepacific.org where you can find the links to giving. You can also scan the QR code below on your smart phone. We thank you so much in advance.



Did you know?

90% of those with preventable or treatable vision conditions live in resource-scarce communities around the world, where access to eye care is limited by location or expense.

Source: SEE International