

Vascular Birthmarks Foundation Annual Appeal



VBF, P.O. Box 106, Latham, NY 12110

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Catalanotto Scholarship

VBF is pleased to announce our newest college scholarship award, the Frank Catalanotto Perseverance Scholarship, which honors VBF's co-chair Frank Catalanotto, and his wife Barbara, for their tireless efforts to raise awareness and funds for VBF.



left to right: Dr. Linda, Frank Catalanotto, Evan Ducker, Barbara Catalanotto and Morgan Catalanotto

This award also recognizes Frank's accomplishment as a Major League Baseball Player; as the father of a child who had a vascular birthmark and was helped

by VBF; as the author of a book chronicling his journey in baseball and in

life, entitled, "Heart and Hustle." Applicants must demonstrate that through living with a vascular birthmark they have had both the "heart and the

hustle" qualities of life.

The first VBF Frank Catalanotto Scholarship for \$1,000 was presented at the Third Annual Frank Catalanotto Golf Outing, to Evan Ducker, by VBF President and Founder Dr. Linda Rozell-Shannon along with Frank and Barbara Catalanotto.

Evan is well-known in the birthmark world. He is the co-author of the Buddy Booby Birthmark Book and has been spreading the word about vascular birthmarks for the past 10 years.

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VBF Working for You

- Over 65,00 children & adults networked into treatment.
- Issued 5 college scholarships
- Held walk/runs in PA & NY to raise awareness
- VBF Israel in 2014
- 2014 iTeam trip to India
- Launched anti-bullying campaign Ask/Accept
- Annual conferences
- Working with Camp Discovery

VBF, Lenox Hill Hospital and Dr. Robert Rosen Bringing iTeam to India

The VBF iTeam (International Humanitarian Team) will be traveling to Delhi, India February 4-7, 2014 to speak about vascular birthmarks and to perform free laser treatments and surgeries for 2 days.

The mission is co-sponsored by VBF, Lenox Hill Hospital/Northshore, and

Dr. Robert Rosen.

All physicians are volunteering their services to educate about vascular birthmarks and to perform free laser and surgical treatments. Over 170 children and adults are scheduled for treatment by the VBF iTeam.

We are hoping that the

conference and training will result in a sustained program in India, where future laser treatments and surgeries will be performed.

The VBF joined with the Pediatric Oncology and Hematology Research

-See ITEAM, Page 2-

Institute NN Blokhin Russian Cancer Research Center in Moscow to host the first iTeam mission in Moscow, Russia, in June 2012.

The VBF iTeam, consisting of the VBF president/founder and 6 physicians, provided free treatments to over 100 patients.

Following the India mission in 2014, the next planned iTeam trip will be to Israel in 2015.



Dr. Linda and daughter Christine on the cover of *Live & Learn*

Dr. Linda Rozell-Shannon is featured in the 2013 Spring issue of *Live and Learn Excelsior College Magazine*. The article highlights her dedication to helping individuals with vascular birthmarks, following the birth of her daughter who had a facial hemangioma. She and daughter Christine appeared on the cover of the magazine

In addition, Dr. Linda was inducted in her High School's Hall of Fame (Rensselaer Jr. Sr. High School) in April 2013 for her work with the VBF. She is the first female inducted into the school's Hall of Fame.

Read the article here: <http://www.excelsior.edu/static/liveandlearn/2013>

VBF Instrumental in Babies With Birthmarks Guidelines

VBF worked with the American Academy of Pediatrics (AAP) to implement Babies with Birthmarks Guidelines.

The guidelines will help to ensure that all babies with vascular birthmarks will be referred to a specialist for evaluation at the four-week well baby check-up.

“...all babies with vascular birthmarks will be referred to a specialist for evaluation at the four-week well baby check-up”

The guidelines will be provided to the medical community in the next few months.

Check the VBF website for updates on the guidelines and how it will improve the diagnosis and treatment of children born with a vascular birthmark.

VBF is proud to be a leader in the education and awareness regarding vascular birthmarks and the related syndromes.

VBF Ask/Accept Anti-Bullying Campaign

Ask/Accept is an anti-bullying campaign, project, and online community supported by The Vascular Birthmarks Foundation (VBF).

The Ask/Accept campaign was created to help school age children with vascular birthmarks and their families. Ask/Accept provides advice and community support for any instance of bullying because of

a child's birthmark.

VBF Psychosocial/Developmental Expert Leslie Graff and VBF President and Founder Dr. Linda Rozell-Shannon are presently completing materials for the education phase of the program.

In the Spring of 2014, materials will be available to elementary and middle schools for participation in

raising awareness and acceptance for being different.

Join the “Ask/Accept - An Anti-Bullying Campaign by VBF” on Facebook.

Extreme Acceptance Starts with You & I: "Be kind. Be true. Embrace the difference."

2013 Vascular Birthmarks Conference in California

The Annual Vascular Birthmarks

Conference was held on October 12 in California. The conference presentations were at Island Hotel in Newport Beach, and the clinic sessions at Beckman Laser

Institute in Irvine. Co-Directors, along with VBF, were Dr. J. Stuart Nelson and Dr. Martin Mihm, Jr. The event was sponsored by Syneron, Beckman Laser Institute Inc. Foundation, Leslie and Dennis



Dr. Linda with 2013 Physician of the Year Dr. Francine Blei

Rebelo, Beckman Laser Institute, Terumo, UC Irvine Medical Center, and ASLMS. Thanks also for generous donations from Lauri Firstenberg, Whole Foods, Land O'Lakes, Inc., and Dr. Eric Bernstein.

Awards presented for 2013 were the Patricia Beckman Excellence in Philanthropy Award to Leslie and Dennis Rebelo, VBF Service Award to Andria Gottsabend, Dr.

Michael W. Berns Achievement Award to Dr. Wenbin Tan, and the VBF/Beckman Laser Institute Service Award to Deborah Birnie. The VBF

2013 Physician of the Year Award went to Dr. Francine Blei.

Over 300 people attended the conference, with 127 clinic appointments. The clinic sessions are a free service provided by volunteer physicians – experts in the various fields of vascular birthmarks and related syndromes.

Plans for the 2014 conference in New York City are underway, to coincide with the VBF 20 year anniversary gala. Check the VBF website for upcoming details.

VBF and Camp Discovery

VBF is now working with Camp Discovery for Kids through the American Academy of Dermatology (AAD) to refer children with vascular birthmarks to free summer camp programs sponsored and staffed by AAD members.

Camp Discovery was founded in 1993 and offers six weeks of camp in five locations where participants

experience activities such as fishing, swimming, archery, horseback riding, and nature trails.

All costs, including transportation, are provided by the AAD through generous donations from its members, other organizations, and individuals.

If you have a child who would benefit from this program, please

contact the VBF for more information or visit the Camp Discovery website at: www.campdiscovery.org

Camp Discovery offers campers the opportunity to spend a week among other young people who have similar skin conditions.

2014 VBF Conference and 20 Year Anniversary Celebration

In 2014, VBF celebrates 20 years of raising awareness and patient support for vascular birthmarks in New York City.

On Friday, October 10, the VBF will host a 20th Anniversary Gala, with Chairs Frank and Barbara Catalanotto and Dr. and Mrs. Robert Rosen, at the Hudson Theatre, in New York City's

Times Square. The annual Vascular Birthmarks Conference will follow on Saturday, October 11, at Lenox Hill Hospital.

Full details of the anniversary celebration will be posted on the VBF website. Check back often for updates on the exciting plans for the Gala and Conference.

-CATALANOTTO|From Page 1-

Evan is studying marine biology in college and wants to work at a zoo, taking care of animals. As the first recipient, Evan will “pay it forward” by hosting a VBF Day of Awareness event on campus.

VBF will be posting the guidelines and accepting applications for the 2014 scholarship after January 1, 2014.

2013 Day of Awareness Events

VBF Comedy Night Fundraiser in Bronx, New York

Fran Muscarella hosted the Comedy Night Fundraiser to Benefit VBF in honor of her five-year-old granddaughter, Julia McGrath who has a port wine stain and Klippel-Trenaunay Syndrome. The event was held on October 19, at the Guiding Star Restaurant in Bronx, NY.

Over 180 people attended, with entertainment by New York City comedians, Vic Dibitto, Tommy Gooch and Fred Rubino. In addition to a night of laughs, attendees enjoyed a wonderful dinner, music and



Program poster for Bronx Comedy Night

fabulous raffle prizes, which included grand prizes of NY Giants and NY Jets tickets. A hairstylist provided burgundy hair extensions, the color representing

vascular birthmarks, in exchange for a donation to VBF. It was a fantastic evening that resulted in a profit of over \$8,600 for VBF.

VBF is very grateful for the continued support of Fran and her family.



Dr. Linda receives hair extension

Texas Angel Kiss Golf Classic

The Angel's Kiss Golf Classic to benefit the Vascular Birthmarks Foundation marked the tenth fundraising anniversary for VBF Board Members and VBF Texas Founders, Natalie and Brian Bolinger. The event was held at Oakmont Country Club in Corinth, Texas on September 23.

A record number of golf balls were sold for the helicopter drop, and this year's winner was Rich Lanoue.

VBF thanks Perry Luig for providing the helicopter for the event. Bonded Lighting Protection and ALT were kind enough to bring their amazing cooking trailer and provided delicious BB-Q sandwiches, and thanks to Willow Bend Mortgage for their generous beer sponsorship.

70 people attended this event, which raised \$12,000 to benefit VBF. We appreciate the Bolinger's dedication,

hard work and ongoing support of VBF's mission.



Natalie and Brian Bolinger with son Brock

Second Annual Olivia's Walk for Birthmarks in Pennsylvania a Huge Success!

VBF Board Member, Andria Gottsabend, organized the Second Annual Olivia's Walk for Birthmarks Saturday, May 18th at Tyler State Park. It was a huge success with 200 walkers.

Andria started this annual event in honor of her 5-year-old daughter, Olivia, who has a port wine stain and

has had many laser treatments for her vascular birthmark.

Olivia's walk brought in over \$9,000 for VBF.



Olivia at the Walk in her honor.

VBF's 5th Annual Challenge Walk/Run

VBF's 5th Annual Challenge, a 5K Race, Community Walk and Kids Fun Run, was held May 10 at The Niskayuna Soccer Complex in Niskayuna, NY. Once again, this family-friendly event was a great success with over 200 people in attendance, raising over \$8,000.

VBF would like to thank the 2013 Birthmark Champion, Alec Frazier and his family, and past Birthmark Champions, Chase Manny and his family, Kaylee Rippey and her family (The Wojciks), Ethan Watson and his family and Anna Joyce and her family. These families also had large teams participating at the event.

Host a walk/run in your own community. Visit the VBF website for details.

Thanks also to our walk/run committee: Kyla Manny, Tara Frazier, Kristin Krikorian, Nancy and John Wojcik, Kim Thurn, Holly Morizio, Lianne Chase, Erle Daniels and Race With Us. We also would like to thank our additional volunteers: Christine Shannon, Jim and Jimmy Joyce, Lily and Steve Ernst, Stefanie Roche, Irene and Fred Gadomski, AJ Palmateer, Fred Palmateer, Marty Morizio, the Kohls volunteers, Geoff Frazier, Scott, Gregory, Gary and Pat Krikorian, Travis Winglosky, Michelle, Hannah and Megan Combs, TJ Reichl and Mary Clark, and to VBF staff: Dr. Linda Rozell-Shannon, Basia Joyce, Lauren Palmateer and Genevieve Malloux.

A very special thanks to our many sponsors, including Joe Condon and B95.5/Albany Broadcasting, DJ Krazy Keith, Coccadotts Cupcake Van, Tumbling Tykes, Funflatables and Changes Salon for donating their services in order to make this event successful.



Top Left: Basia Joyce and Dr. Linda Rozell-Shannon with First place runner

Center: Birthmark Champion Alec Frazier (left) with past champion Ethan Watson

Right: Children line up for the "Kids Fun Run"



Fun at the VBF 5th Annual Challenge Walk/Run in Niskayuna, New York



More 2013 VBF Day of Awareness Events

Annual Walk/Run

VBF 5th Annual Challenge Walk/Run \$8,000

Olivia's Walk for Birthmarks \$9,000

Golf

Texas Angel Kiss Golf Classic \$8,000

Walk/Run "Join Me" Pages

Kyla Manny \$50

Donna Watson \$100

Dr. Linda Rozell-Shannon \$2,000

Basia Joyce \$375

Stacey DeRusso \$160

Tara Frazier \$760

Lianne Chase \$325

Comedy Night

Fran Muscarella \$8,600

Make Your Mark, Wear a Heart

Lauren Vasquez \$1,425

Day of Awareness "Join Me" Page Fundraisers

Danielle Richey \$1,010

Joanmarie Dimirco \$2,600

Rachel Haners \$20

Jeans Day at Work

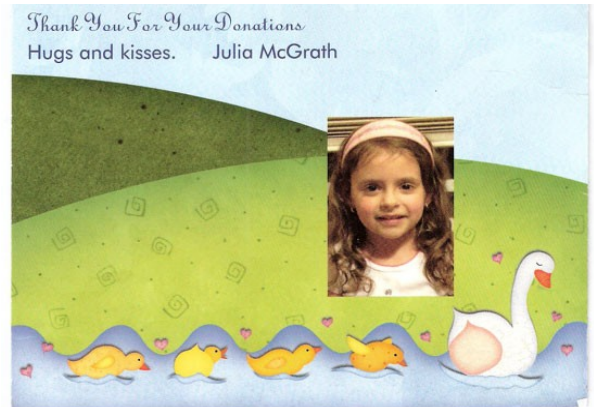
Kristin Krikorian \$165

Wishing Well Fundraiser

Fran Muscarella \$738

Alex and Ani Fundraiser

Tara Frasier and Kristin Krikorian \$968



Thank You Cards from Comedy Night Event



VBF Texas Angel Kiss Birthmark Representatives



Start of 5K Race in New York

2013 VBF President's Letter

Dear Families and Friends:

2013 has been an amazing year for VBF. Our Conference in Irvine was a huge success and every family that requested a free scholarship was able to attend due to your support. We had our largest clinic with over 125 appointments and 6 different clinic teams.

The VBF's Anti-Bullying Program was launched in 2012 and we are very excited to announce that in 2013 we began to design work books that will be distributed for free to elementary and middle schools kids regarding self-esteem and combating bullying. This not only focuses on children with birthmarks, it also focuses on all differences. We will be printing and distributing these materials in 2014 to any school that requests them.

We are also extremely excited to announce that our iTEAM (international team) will be heading to India February 4-8, 2014. We have over 170 patients scheduled for treatment by our iTEAM. We are bringing 10 doctors and 2 specialists (including myself). In 2015 we will be bringing the iTEAM to Israel.

We are working with the American Academy of Pediatrics on the Babies With Birthmarks Guidelines. After 20 years (next year is our 20th Anniversary) we will now have guidelines in place that will require a primary care doctor (pediatrician) to refer a baby with a birthmark to a vascular birthmark specialist. We are also working with the American Academy of Dermatology on the Camp Discovery Program where kids with skin conditions can go to camp for free. We will now be referring kids with birthmarks to these free summer camps.

Next year is a huge year for VBF. We will hit our 20 year milestone in October. We will also celebrate reaching over 75,000 children and adults that we have networked into treatment.

Thank you so much for your support throughout the years. I hope you will continue to make VBF one of your choices for a charity that you will continue to support. Without your help, these great milestones would not be happening. You and VBF are a team, and together,
We Are Making A Difference.



Dr. Linda Rozell-Shannon and daughter Christine

Dr. Linda Rozell Shannon

The VBF Dr. Martin C. Mihm, Jr. Scholarships

The VBF Dr. Martin C. Mihm, Jr. scholarships were awarded in August.

The scholarships, in the amount of \$1,000 each, support students with vascular birthmarks. The scholarship program honors Dr. Mihm for his outstanding work in the research of vascular birthmarks.

Preference is given to students who plan to pursue an undergraduate degree in the field of public health, health promotion, or disability studies.

The 2013 recipients of the Mihm scholarship are: Sarina Patel, Alicia Filewicz, Macie Fox, and Kelcie Berge.

Congratulations to all our 2013 VBF Dr. Martin C. Mihm, Jr. Scholarship recipients.

Applications for VBF scholarships can be completed on our website. Information regarding eligibility requirements and deadlines for application submittals will be posted on the VBF site.



Scholarship recipient Sarina Patel was a featured speaker at the 2013 VBF Conference

**Vascular Birthmarks
Foundation
P.O. Box 106
Latham, NY 12110**

**Phone: 877-VBF-4646
Email: hvbf@aol.com**

**VBF is a fully approved not-for-profit.
Your donations are tax deductible.
Federal Tax ID: 16-1515227**



**VBF
We Are Making a
Difference**



**VASCULAR BIRTHMARKS FOUNDATION, INC
STATEMENTS OF FINANCIAL POSITION
DECEMBER 31, 2012 (AUDITED) AND 2011 (REVIEWED)**

	2012 Audited	2011 Reviewed
Current Assets		
Cash and Cash Equivalents	\$317,655	\$184,121
Fixed Assets		
Property, Plant and Equipment, Net	485	1,093
	<u>\$318,140</u>	<u>\$185,214</u>
<u>LIABILITIES AND NET ASSETS</u>		
Current Liabilities		
Accounts Payable & Accrued Expenses	\$ 18,741	\$ 155
Net Assets		
Unrestricted	294,399	180,059
Temporarily Restricted	5,000	5,000
	<u>299,399</u>	<u>185,059</u>
Total Net Assets	<u>\$318,140</u>	<u>\$185,214</u>

VBF Donor Registration Form

I would like to make the following donation to:

- ☐ Vascular Birthmarks Foundation (VBF US)
- ☐ VBF International Chapter - Chapter Name: _____
- ☐ Sponsor a Family
- In Memory or Honor of your Loved One: _____

**Return this form to:
VBF/Fund
P.O. Box 106
Latham, NY 12110**

**Contact Information
Fill out form where applicable:**

DONATION – CREDIT CARD/CHECK/MONEY ORDER

Amount of Donation: \$ _____

Name on Credit Card: _____

Type of Credit card

☐ VISA ☐ MasterCard
☐ Discover ☐ American Express

Credit Card Number: _____

Expiration Date: _____

☐ Check or Money Order: payable to VBF (memo branch)

Name: _____
Street Address: _____
City: _____ State: _____ Zip Code: _____
Home Phone Number: (____) _____ Work: (____) _____
Email: _____

VBF is a fully approved not-for-profit. Federal Tax ID 16-1515227