



The weekly community publication dedicated to bringing our readers avital locally oriented view of the news

Tattle

Tales

By Lenny Traube

NO NEED TO BE A SLAVE TO CATARACTS: This is the eye ailment which is so indigenous to the aging process that it has become for many part of the so-called Golden Years. Having recently undergone scalpel (not laser) surgery on one eye (after having lost the sight in the other), the author of this column can personally attest to the joy of the blessed gift of sight, which so many of us are apt to take for granted.

That joy was experienced following recent no-stitch cataract surgery at the skilled hands of brilliant young eye surgeon, Dr. Mark Fromer, who is in Forest Hills, the Bronx and on East 61 Street in Manhattan. In addition to treating cataract sufferers, the good doctor also is able to nullify life long Nearsightedness, Far sightedness and Astigmatism.

Thanks to this eminent Board Certified Diplomate of Ophthalmology, this pillar of prose is back in print sooner than expected. While wearing an eye shield and bandage after the surgery, the author of *Tattle Tales* found out what it was like to be blind for 24 hours and completely dependent throughout that timespan on his devoted Seeing Eye Wife. Nothing can describe the ecstasy just seeing light and a human face with the removal of the bandage and shield.

It's an experience that induces a new-found awareness of the terrible plight of the blind and of the philanthropy of those at The Lighthouse who give aid to the blind. In the meanwhile, this scribe still has a ways to go. While he now has distance vision he never had before and has jettisoned his glasses, the close vision necessary for reading has not yet returned (Ah, to read Liz Smith and Cindy Adams once more. That's something to look forward to.) For the present, there's the renewed pleasure of watching movies on cable and of writing these words with the help of a compliant typewriter keyboard. And, of course, there's the encouraging prognosis of the good Dr. Fromer, who says, "It's going to get better every day."