2024 PREVENT BLINDNESS PERSON OF VISION DINNER

HONORING ED BUFFINGTON

Thursday, March 14, 2024
583 Park Avenue | New York, NY
Dear Friends,

Thank you for joining us tonight at the 2024 Prevent Blindness Person of Vision (POV) Award Ceremony, the last one to be celebrated in NYC. Tonight, we are honored to celebrate Ed Buffington, President & CEO of GPN Technologies, as the 2024 Person of Vision, recognizing his leadership and longstanding contributions to the eyecare industry.

This celebration is made possible by the generous contributions of our sponsors and supporters. You and I, and all of us in this room, understand the importance of protecting and preserving vision. In addition, your kind donations, dedicated in honor of Ed, will support outreach initiatives for those at risk of vision loss, facilitate quality vision screenings for school-aged children, and contribute to advocacy efforts, all aimed at ensuring more Americans can cherish the gift of sight for a lifetime.

Thank you once again for your generous support. Special appreciation goes to the 2024 POV committee members and the Prevent Blindness staff for their hard work in making this night a memorable celebration. On behalf of Prevent Blindness, we express our gratitude for your presence as we honor Ed’s achievements and celebrate the eyecare industry’s commitment to preserving the invaluable gift of sight.

Maureen Cavanagh
2024 Person of Vision Committee Chair
Person of Vision - Evening Program

Welcome

Jeff Todd
Prevent Blindness
President & CEO

Master of Ceremonies

Maureen Cavanagh
Advancing Eyecare

Mission Speaker

Tracey Simon
ASPECT Participant

Guest Speakers

Jay Binkowitz
Keplr Vision
Executive Vice President

Jim McGrann
Advancing Eyecare
Chief Executive Officer

Award Presentation

Jay Binkowitz and
Jim McGrann

Award Acceptance

Ed Buffington

Nightcap Reception

Zyloware Sponsor
Thank You to Our Sponsors

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Kavanagh, Stadlen and Binkowitz

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AMGEN Rare Disease
BAUSCH + LOMB
See better. Live better.

JOBSON INTERACTIVE
VSP VISION

**Nightcap Reception Sponsor**
100 Years of Zyloware.
MAKE A DONATION TONIGHT IN HONOR OF
ED BUFFINGTON
2024 PREVENT BLINDNESS PERSON OF VISION

Text SIGHT to 1-833-711-1621*
or scan the QR code to donate.

Give NOW and
DOUBLE your impact!

All gifts will be matched up to $15,000
by Kavanagh, Stadlen and Binkowitz

*Msg & data rates may apply.
CONGRATULATIONS!

Ed, you have always been a thoughtful and inspiring leader with an incredible heart. Your contributions have led to the success of many in the ophthalmic industry for the last 40 years.

We can't thank you enough for all you have done for us and for your many accomplishments. We are so proud to have had the opportunity to work with you and to share a treasured friendship.

Congratulations on this well-deserved recognition!

With our very best wishes!
Anne Kavanagh, Mark Stadlen, Jay Binkowitz
Congratulations,
Ed Buffington
on being honored as the 2024 Prevent Blindness Person of Vision.
Leadership in Innovation:
Ed Buffington

Congratulations to Ed Buffington, our exceptional President & CEO, for being named the 2024 Person of Vision! Your career-long commitment to pioneering eye care management technologies has been instrumental in our industry's advancement.

This honor is a testament to your innovative leadership and lasting impact. Here’s to your continued success and the future innovations you’ll inspire.

Thank you!
WE ARE PROUD TO SUPPORT PREVENT BLINDNESS

For over 35 years, our mission has been to use the power of science to bring new medicines to patients... over and over again. Every day, we apply our homegrown technologies and relentless spirit to help people with serious diseases.

We are grateful for Prevent Blindness and their mission to prevent blindness and preserve sight.
CONGRATULATIONS

ED BUFFINGTON
2024 PERSON OF VISION
Amgen Supports Prevent Blindness

CONGRATULATIONS TO 2024 PERSON OF VISION

Our belief—and the core of our strategy—is that innovative, highly differentiated medicines that provide large clinical benefits in addressing serious diseases are medicines that will not only help patients, but also will help reduce the social and economic burden of disease in society today.
Amgen Supports Prevent Blindness

CONGRATULATIONS TO 2024 PERSON OF VISION

Our belief—and the core of our strategy—is that innovative, highly differentiated medicines that provide large clinical benefits in addressing serious diseases are medicines that will not only help patients, but also will help reduce the social and economic burden of disease in society today.

THE LATEST INNOVATIONS from the #1 CONSUMER EYE HEALTH COMPANY*

*Circana Household Panel, Total US, Buying Households, 1/2023-1/2024.
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Congratulations

ED BUFFINGTON
PRESIDENT & CEO AT GPN TECHNOLOGIES

2024 Prevent Blindness
Person of Vision Recipient

From Your Friends At Jobson
CONGRATULATIONS TO THE

2024 PREVENT BLINDNESS

PERSON OF VISION

C. EDWARD ("ED") BUFFINGTON

VSP Vision™ is honored to continue supporting Prevent Blindness in its work to champion healthy vision for a healthy life.

vspvision.com
Congratulations

Ed Buffington

on receiving the 2024 Prevent Blindness Person of Vision Award

FROM YOUR FRIENDS AT

100 YEARS OF Zyloware
SINCE 1923
CONGRATULATES

Ed Buffington

on being named the 2024 Person of Vision!

Your friends at PECAA celebrate you, your entrepreneurial spirit and your legacy of transformative technologies that continue to equip eye care practices for success in an era of rapid evolution.

We thank you for being an agent of change in our industry — and extend our heartfelt congratulations on this honor.
Well Deserved Honor

“Congratulations to C. Edward Buffington for his dedication and impact on the optometry and optical industries.

From humble beginnings to revolutionizing how offices plan and organize their optometry business, Ed Buffington has remained steadfast in his belief and commitment to private practice.

Like so many others in our industry, I owe a debt of gratitude for Ed’s mentorship, guidance, and friendship. This honor is well deserved.

On behalf of the Doctors of Texas State Optical, we salute this year’s Person of Vision Award and thank Prevent Blindness for recognizing a giant in our industry.”

- John D. Marvin, President and CEO of TSO, Inc.
Ed, Dr. Jeff highly recommends the following

Rx
Ed, for decades your mentorship has been a masterclass in leadership—shaping us into better versions of ourselves and leaving a profound legacy.

Immensely thankful for you.

—Evan
CONGRATULATIONS TO 20/20 MAGAZINE ON THE 50TH ANNIVERSARY AND THE PREVENT BLINDNESS PERSON OF VISION HONOREE, ED BUFFINGTON

MARCOLIN

Marcolin is a worldwide leading group in the eyewear industry founded in 1961 in the heart of the Veneto district, in Italy. It stands out for the unique ability to combine craftsmanship with advanced technologies through the constant pursuit of excellence and continuous innovation. Through its own direct network and global partners, Marcolin distributes its products in the major markets worldwide.

www.marcolin.com
Congratulations to Ed Buffington on this well-deserved honor!

We salute you and Prevent Blindness for all you do!
Congratulations to 2024 Person of Vision Honoree

Ed Buffington

who has throughout his career supported

the vision industry like no other.

You are spectacular!

NEW YORK EYE®
CONGRATULATIONS
ED BUFFINGTON

2024 Prevent Blindness
Person of Vision

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Attorneys At Law
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Perfect vision. Personal touch

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Wisconsin Vision | Heartland Vision and Eye Boutique Inc. wish to take a moment and send tribute to Edward Buffington, a titan in the eye care industry. One whose passion and dedication have left a lasting mark in the optical industry for over 38 years. It is well known Ed’s journey has been one of profound impact and unwavering commitment.

With a career filled in innovation and leadership, Ed is a testament to vision, foresight and beyond entrepreneurial endeavors. His influence extends far and wide to include:

- The founding of OfficeMate.
- Pioneering of PMS/EHR software solutions (propelling the optical industry forward).
- Involvement with Marchon and VSP, where he exemplified leadership expertise, forged invaluable partnerships and championed strategic initiatives.

To Ed Buffington, a visionary leader whose brilliance illuminates the path for generations to come; your profound impact and tireless dedication inspire us all.

Thank you from all of us at Wisconsin Vision | Heartland Vision and Eye Boutique Inc. for your extraordinary contributions to the eye care community.
Foxfire, NVMI, EyecarePro and Anagram unite to celebrate Ed Buffington as the 2024 Person of Vision.

Ed's transformative impact on eye health, from pioneering practice management software to leading in data analytics, exemplifies our shared vision for a future where everyone has access to superior eye care.

Together, we congratulate Ed on this distinguished honor.

HONORING A VISIONARY

EYE CARE SUPPLEMENTS FOR EVERY STAGE OF LIFE
Congratulations to Ed Buffington on this most deserved award!

Michael Berenhaus, ODMBA
Focused on a Future Together

BRIDGEVIEW EYE PARTNERS®

30+ YEARS OF EXPERIENCE
PHYSICIAN OWNED AND LED
63 INTEGRATED PRACTICES
9 SURGERY CENTERS

Our Growing Network:

To start the conversation, contact
Tim Leland  tleland@bridgevieweye.com
Kevin Schwab  kschwab@bridgevieweye.com

bridgevieweye.com

Congratulations to Ed.
An industry leader, great friend
and innovator.

from
EYEDESIGNS group
Congratulations, Ed!

Your friends at FluoreSCENE Media and the entire ODs on Facebook community celebrate you and your many contributions to the eye care industry!

ED BUFFINGTON
2024 PREVENTING BLINDNESS PERSON OF VISION
ODCommunity.com

Congratulations to our friend
ED BUFFINGTON
on his 2024 Person of Vision Award and thank you to
PREVENT BLINDNESS
for its advocacy and mission!

Your friends at
GILBERT
www.gilbertexperience.com
CONGRATULATIONS
ED BUFFINGTON

Thank you for making eyes matter.

Your friends at,

keplrvision.com

Eyes Matter. | EYECARE MATTERS:
The McGee Group is proud to continue to support the mission to prevent blindness at home and throughout the world.

A special thank you to Ed Buffington!

Congratulations

ED BUFFINGTON
2024 Prevent Blindness Person of Vision

Your spirit, dedication and commitment to the vision industry, no matter where in the world you are, is an inspiration to us all.

Beth & Steve Leeds

mcgeegroup.com
MOREL is honored to congratulate EdBuffington on the Person of Vision Award! For decades, Ed has been an inspiration through his pioneering leadership and dedication to the eyecare industry. Cheers to your remarkable achievements, Ed!

ED BUFFINGTON
2024 PERSON OF VISION

MyEyeDr. would like to congratulate Ed Buffington, Prevent Blindness 2024 Person of Vision.

EXCEPTIONAL EYECARE from Trusted Doctors

ALL INSURANCES Welcome

POPULAR EYEWEAR BRANDS for Every Budget and Style

MYEYEDR.COM
CONGRATULATIONS, ED!

Your friends at North Shore Computer, Inc., celebrate you, your leadership and all your accomplishments!

NSComputer.com | SpinCompliance.com

The OWA Board of Directors and OWA membership congratulate OWA Platinum Sponsor and OWA Individual Contributor

ED BUFFINGTON

President and CEO of GPN Technologies

for being selected as the 2024 Person Of Vision!

Join today at opticalwomen.com/join.asp
Congratulations

ED BUFFINGTON

Your legacy will continue to inspire future generations of innovators to dare to dream big and push the boundaries of what’s possible.

Mike & Heidi Della Pesca

Shopko Optical congratulates Ed Buffington for being named the 2024 Prevent Blindness Person of Vision. We honor Ed for his passionate leadership and truly altruistic efforts.

Shopko Optical.
CONGRATULATIONS

Ed Buffington

for being named the
2024 Prevent Blindness Person of Vision.

VIATRIS™

Thank you to the following individuals for supporting the Prevent Blindness Person of Vision, Ed Buffington:

Dr. Matt and Jenna Dixon
Glen Funk, Walman Optical
Ronald Krefman, focalCenter
Barry Slovinsky, Eight to Eighty Eyewear
NEW YORK GOLF CLASSIC

Wykagyl Country Club, New Rochelle, NY, USA
20th May 2024
Foursome: $3,500
Help save sight in the USA & Ireland

Contact AMuci@PreventBlindness.org for more information or to book.

SAVE THE DATE

Wednesday, September 18, 2024
Bali Hai Golf Club | Las Vegas
7:00 A.M. Shotgun Start

For more information or to join the Committee, contact Albert Muci, amuci@preventblindness.org
THANK YOU!

Maureen Cavanagh
Chair

Marge Axelrad
Vision Monday

Jay Binkowitz
Keplr Vision

Deb Bulken
Luxottica Wholesale

Marc Ferrara
Jobson Medical information

Anne Kavanagh
Kavanagh Consulting LLC

Katie Lauver
GPN Technologies

Lorie Lippiatt
LLL Holdings LLC

Jim McGrann
Advancing Eyecare

Jamie Shyer
Zyloware

Matt Tackman
Essilor
Don’t Get Caught Naked!

Never look at the sun with the naked eye. Protect your eyes with eclipse glasses.

Prevent Blindness
Eclipse + Your Eyes

Celebrate the April 8 Solar Eclipse with Prevent Blindness eclipse glasses!
Visit PreventBlindness.org/eclipse or contact Eclipse@PreventBlindness.org
Buffington began his career in the optical industry in 1979 as part of the contact lens company, American Hydron. In 1983, with his partners, he launched OfficeMate Software installing the first eyecare practice management software system to run on an IBM PC in April 1984.

After tremendous growth, in 1994, Marchon acquired OfficeMate, which was later acquired by VSP. Today OfficeMate remains one of the leading eyecare practice management and electronic medical records software solutions in the optometric industry with a significant market share.

After retiring from VSP in 2014, Buffington began his private consulting firm, The Buffington Company, leveraging his nearly 40 years of expertise in the eyecare industry. In 2017, Buffington joined data analytics firm, GPN Technologies as President and CEO.

The Prevent Blindness Person of Vision Award recognizes an individual, corporation and/or organization whose inspired outlook champions healthy vision and its importance for a healthy life.

All proceeds from the event support the mission and programs of Prevent Blindness.