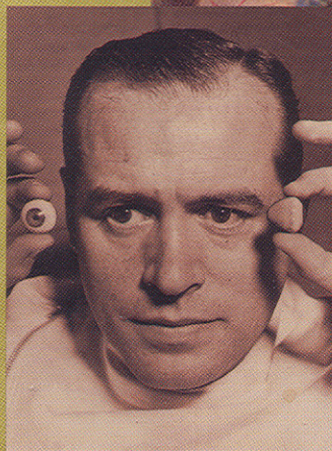
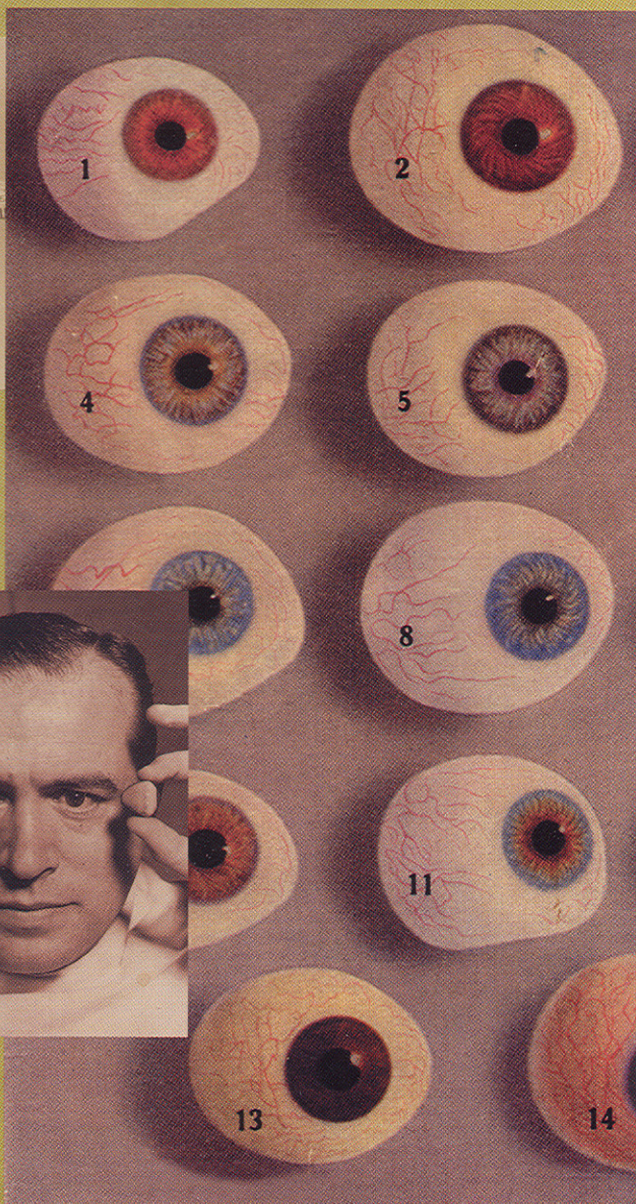
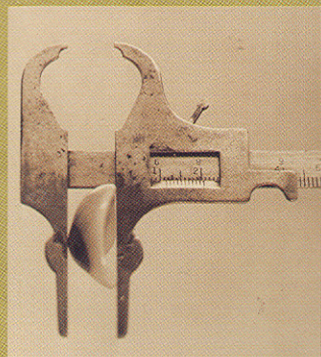


*A Brief History of Artificial Eyes
Made in Virginia, Washington, D.C.
and Surrounding Areas*



Eye Making

ARTIFICIAL EYE CLINIC
Michael O. Hughes, Ocularist

DEDICATION

In the next few pages I have noted a number of great contributors to the world of Virginian eye making. While each individual was a unique stepping stone, special recognition needs to be made to **Joseph Galeski, Clyde Andrews and Langdon Henderlite**, who all hailed from Galeski Optical in Richmond, Virginia. Ocularistry is a small, special occupation, however, to the patients in need, it can be an emotional lifesaving service. With over *one hundred and forty* years of artificial eye fitting and fabricating experience among them, these three individuals have truly made a difference to many people. Joseph Galeski, Clyde Andrews and Langdon Henderlite helped shape Virginia eye making. At a time when eye making was nonexistent, in rural areas this trio set significant standards in the quality of prosthetic eye care that is still expected today.

—*Michael O. Hughes*



Upper right: patient (Jarris Woody of Richmond, VA) and Clyde Andrews. Lower right: same patient as a young boy with Joseph Galeski. Lower left: Langdon "Red" Henderlite.

INTRODUCTION

The Commonwealth of Virginia has a diverse and interesting history in regard to ocular prosthetics. This rich history ranges from German glass blowers, early military pioneering to the eye fitters of today. In this pamphlet, I hope to introduce you to the art of eye making and detail the significant institutions and individuals who have influenced and treated the needs of the monocular patients in Virginia.

Having an ocular prosthesis made is a very personal and emotional experience, especially the first time. Most individuals have vivid memories of the "first" time, and they usually have fond memories of the first individual who fit them with a prosthesis. Many patients, when recollecting who made the original prosthesis, ask: "What ever happened to..." or "Have you ever heard of ..."

While this is a good, comprehensive account of eye makers (ocularists) and fitters (usually opticians), there may be a few omissions due to the obscurity of the work. I have tried to include, to the best of my knowledge and resources, those individuals who did significant work with ocular prosthetics.



The glass scottish terrier shown was created by a German ocularist for Mr. Carroll Simpson of Gretna, Virginia, after having created his glass ocular in 1960. Mr. Simpson is pictured with Langdon Henderlite (above) and Michael Hughes (below). Opposite: Galeski stock oculars prior to shaping.