

Comedy, A Puppy, And Cruise Make Gala A Night To Remember



Greg Warren

Hometown comedian Greg Warren entertained the crowd at SLOCA's annual Living Out Loud gala, on April 8, making it a night to remember.

SLOCA raised more than \$140,000 at the event to help fund its community awareness and support programs. More than 325 guests attended the gala, held at Forest Hills Country Club and emceed by Laura Hettiger, co-host of "Great Day St. Louis" on KMOV-TV.

Among the highlights from the live auction were Lulu, a Cavapoo puppy, and a 7-day Carnival cruise. The silent auction items included a Tarasenko jersey, a hot air balloon ride, a retro Budweiser patio set, dinner and a performance at Jazz at the Bistro, pampering gift certificates to local spas and salons and adorable Little Tikes goodies for the kids. Guests had fun bidding on unique travel experiences, assorted silent auction items, and a jewelry pull hosted by Kendra Scott, and their generosity poured out for Fund-A-Need.



Laura Hettiger and Lulu

Greg Warren, whose mother lost her battle with ovarian cancer in 2016, was the feature speaker. He entertained the guests for more than 30 minutes and had everyone laughing with his fabulous comedic performance. Colleen Kelly Warren was a writer for the Webster Kirkwood Times, and Greg shared some of her inspirational columns with the audience.



From left: Nancy Larson-Vomund, Beverly Kinkade, Susan Robben and Dr. David Mutch

SLOCA honored Beverly Kinkade with its Volunteer Impact Award for her leadership as its past president and her unwavering support of the organization throughout the years. Her development expertise and connections in the community provides sponsorship support and countless items for the auction.



The Jorgensen Family

The Teal Spirit Award was given to the Jorgensen family, which for 11 years has sponsored the Families Run for Ovarian Cancer ROC Star 5k and one-mile walk/run in downtown St. Louis. The race began in 2006 to honor and support their wife and mother Brenda Jorgensen. Brenda lost her battle with ovarian cancer in 2011, but the race continues to grow. Each year it brings together more than 1,600 survivors, supporters and those who lost loved ones to ovarian cancer, and the money raised is donated directly to ovarian cancer research efforts.

Cindy Becker and Joan Walsh co-chaired the 2017 gala and had this to say about the evening: "It was a thoroughly enjoyable evening with so many great items to bid on in the silent auction, amazing live auction trips, dedicated and enthusiastic volunteers and a lively and generous crowd. It was truly an inspirational night. We laughed, we cried, and we were left feeling hopeful that through spreading awareness and helping to fund research we can make an impact on the lives of women battling ovarian cancer. Keep up the good fight!"



From left: Joan Walsh and Cindy Becker

A special thank you to this year's sponsors who helped make the evening a smashing success. Myriad Genetics Laboratories was our presenting sponsor. Other sponsors include World Wide Technology, Graybar, Emerson, Nidec Motor Company, Maritz Travel, Mannen Financial Group, Mercy, Edward Jones, Siteman Cancer Center, Summit Marketing, St. Luke's Hospital, Ameren, Lewis Rice, SLUCare Department of Women's Health, Missouri Foundation for Health, Genentech and an anonymous donor.

Thank you, too, to all our guests and the volunteers who work tirelessly to make the gala a successful fundraiser each year.

Be sure to mark your calendars for our 2018 gala. It will be held **April 21** at the Grand Lobby of the William D. Purser Center on the campus of Logan University.

(A Night to Remember continued on page 7.)



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Board of Directors

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Teal Talks
 Summer 2017
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Mission Statement

St. Louis Ovarian Cancer Awareness is committed to impacting ovarian cancer survivorship by promoting awareness of early warning signs and standards of care, funding ovarian cancer research, and supporting survivors.

Donations

SLOCA is a 501(c)3 tax-exempt organization. Donations may be made at www.sloca.org/donate or by mailing a check to 12015 Manchester Road, Suite 130, Des Peres, MO 63131. Please note if the donation is in memory or honor of someone.

Stay in Touch

We publish *Teal Talks* twice a year and send e-mail blasts intermittently. We hope you'll share your e-mail address so that we can stay in touch; go to www.sloca.org/newsletters.

To be removed from the mailing list, e-mail newsletter@sloca.org.

Mark Your Calendars For SLOCA's Upcoming Events



WOWW Washers Tournament

The 7th annual Washing Out with Washers (WOWW) Tournament to benefit SLOCA will be held at 1 p.m. on Saturday, **July 8**, at the Tunica Site at Tower Grove Park. The cost is \$30 per player or \$60 per team of two (food and beverage included). Spectator tickets are available for \$15, including food and beverage. There will also be a 50/50 drawing and silent raffle. You can register for the event at sloca.org.

Cookie Baking for Survivors



Join us to bake teal ribbon cookies on **Sept. 5** at the Dierberg's Cooking School kitchen in Des Peres. The cookies will be distributed to ovarian cancer patients and oncology nurses at gynecologic oncologist offices throughout the area. To sign up please call our office at 314-966-7562.

SLOCA Night at Busch Stadium

SLOCA will turn the ballpark teal on Friday, **Sept. 8**, against the Pittsburgh Pirates. Five hundred fans clad in teal will help cheer the Redbirds to victory. Tickets are on sale now so order yours online at sloca.org or by calling the SLOCA office at 314-966-7562. Seats are located in right field and lower right field box and can be purchased for \$35; the price includes a voucher for a hot dog and soda. Tickets will go fast so order yours today by visiting sloca.org.



Teal Toes

Our 5th annual Teal Toes event will be held on Tuesday, **Sept. 12**, at Nail Pro in Des Peres. Help support SLOCA by getting your toes painted teal (or another favorite color). The day includes food and beverage, silent auction and raffle. Reserve your pedicure appointment online now at SLOCA.org/tealtoes or call 314-966-7562. A portion of all proceeds that day will benefit ovarian cancer research.



Families Run for Ovarian Cancer



Sign up for the 11th annual Families Run for Ovarian Cancer ROC Star 5k and 1-mile walk/run. The event takes place on Sunday, **Oct. 8** at Soldier's Memorial in downtown St. Louis.

ROC Star event began in 2006 by the Jorgensen family as their wife and mother, Brenda, fought her own battle with ovarian cancer. Sadly, she lost that battle in 2011 but the event continues to honor her spirit by raising funds for ovarian cancer research and ongoing awareness programs. For more information or to register, visit sloca.org.

Welcome New Board Member



Robin Hake

Robin Hake is joining the board as a director at large.

Her professional career began as a court reporter and eventually led her into a 20-year career with a restaurant manufacturing company as its vice president of administration.

Robin is a close friend of SLOCA board member Alene Becker, whose experience as a 39-year survivor of ovarian cancer touched Robin's heart. For several years, Robin and her husband Jack Hake have attended SLOCA's annual fund-raising gala and have become strong supporters of SLOCA.

Robin also is a cancer survivor. When she was first diagnosed with breast cancer she visited the Mayo Clinic, which she believes saved her life. At the Mayo Clinic Robin was given a complete examination where they found eight tumors in her uterus and a spot on her leg that was found to be Stage 2 melanoma. Robin is grateful for the wonderful care she has received and is thankful for the continuous medical breakthroughs that have helped in women's survival.

Through her own personal struggles Robin understands the importance of giving back and hopes she can make a difference by serving on SLOCA's board.

She and Jack have four sons and 14 grandchildren.

A Team Bands Together

On Oct. 5, the Quincy High School Blue Devils soccer team held an ovarian cancer awareness night in support of parents and teachers in their community who are battling ovarian cancer.

The team donned teal jerseys and brought home a 4-2 winner against Quincy Notre Dame. The Blue Devils raised \$4,200, which they donated to SLOCA by selling ovarian cancer t-shirts and gathering donations from their fans.



A Night to Remember

(A Night to Remember continued from page 1.)



From left: Vickie Forrest, Melissa Shapiro and Maria Nguyen



Rodney and Sandi Tolliver



Silent Auction

Photos courtesy of Louis Kwok and Town & Style magazine

Students Get A Lesson In Service



From left: Susan Robben, NJHS members and sponsor Ann Ryherd

Each semester, 7th- and 8th-grade students who are members of the National Junior Honor Society at Green Park Lutheran School in south St. Louis County look for ways to serve their community. As a group, the students select and implement a project. SLOCA became one of their beneficiaries this year.

Last semester, with the assistance of their sponsor, Ann Ryherd, the NJHS students decided to raise awareness and money for a nonprofit organization that helps people with cancer. The school had done several projects to help a 3rd-grade student who has been battling leukemia. To broaden the scope of its philanthropy, the school held an awareness week to educate classmates about other types of cancer.

The NJHS members chose cancers that have affected people close to them. Each day of Awareness Week was devoted to a different cancer. Students' families donated to the cancer that had affected them the most. In turn, the children wore T-shirts whose colors were associated with each type of cancer. Additionally, colorful paper hearts were sold and marked with the names of loved ones. The "votes" were totaled by the number of students who wore each cancer's color and the number of hearts purchased in that color.

A beloved, former teacher at Green Park, Barbara Palish, had courageously fought ovarian cancer and eventually lost her battle. Her daughter, Brenda Huster, who teaches 4th grade, helped lead the rally for ovarian cancer. Many of Barbara's family have been former students at Green Park, including her daughter, granddaughter and grandson.

The weeklong event at Green Park Lutheran School raised more than \$1,500. With the help of Dr. Leslie McCloskey, an OB-GYN, the school contacted SLOCA and proudly gave a heartfelt donation to help those affected by ovarian cancer.

Maritz Global Events Making A Difference

As one of the most respected leaders in the meetings and events industry, Maritz Global Events believes in giving back to the community. The company also understands the importance of educating and communicating to their employees about health issues that matter. David Peckinpagh, president of Maritz Global Events, knows all too well about engaging his employees and making a difference in the community.

Beverly Kinkade, a past president of SLOCA, has had a working relationship with David since the 90s. When David relocated to St. Louis as president of Maritz Global Events, Beverly came by his office to congratulate him. She also wanted to tell David about SLOCA and the important work they were doing throughout the community. Since approximately 75% of the company is comprised of women, David felt it was important to introduce Beverly to Mary Anne Zoldak, senior vice president of Human Resources.

As a result of David and Beverly's conversation, SLOCA's relationship with Maritz Global Events began with donations to our live auction for our annual gala. In the past three years the company has grown into a gold corporate sponsor. Understanding the importance of raising awareness of the early warning signs of ovarian cancer, Maritz Global Events has also held brown bag learning sessions and continues to look for opportunities to educate their associates on the detection and treatment of ovarian cancer.

David Peckinpagh feels that the company's involvement with SLOCA over the years has been a great fit into their company culture, which is guided by their signature core value of "First, Take Good Care of Each Other," and a company-wide initiative of "Unleashing Human Potential." SLOCA is proud to have a partner that shares the same goals of making a difference in our community. Thank you Maritz Global Events for all you do!



From left: David Peckinpagh and Beverly Kinkade

Saving Women's Lives Through Education



One of the programs SLOCA is most proud of is Survivors Teaching Students Saving Women's Lives® (STS), an educational program started at the national level by the Ovarian Cancer Research Fund Alliance.

At each talk, survivors tell the story of their experience with ovarian cancer to medical students, nurses, LPNs, nurse-practitioner students and physician assistant students at medical teaching institutions throughout the community. The women describe their symptoms, how they were diagnosed, how they were given the news of their diagnosis and a synopsis of their treatment and after care.

Students are surveyed before and after each talk to assess their knowledge of ovarian cancer and to evaluate the effectiveness of the program. Many have said they found this program to be a valuable teaching tool.

After the presentation, the students fill out a post-evaluation form. Many of their comments are inspiring:

"The presentation taught me a lot of useful information about ovarian cancer. Listening to survivors tell their stories humanized the disease."

Another student wrote, "The speakers left a strong impression on me and gave me a better understanding of diagnosis and treatment."

Lisa Sienkiewicz, SLOCA's past president, is the program's regional coordinator for the Midwestern states of Ovarian Cancer Research Fund Alliance, and Shari Weelborg is the St. Louis area facilitator of STS® program.

If you are an ovarian cancer survivor and would like to share your story, or if you'd like to learn more about the program, you can reach Lisa and Shari by emailing speakers@sloca.org.

Online Community Offers Support For Ovarian Cancer Patients

SLOCA is excited to announce a partnership with Smart Patients, a new online community for ovarian cancer patients and their families. You can join for free to share, interact and learn from peers in a safe, supportive environment.

Smart Patients hosts online discussions about treatments, clinical trials, the latest science, stories delivering hope and inspiration, and how it all fits into the context of your experience. You can also connect safely with other survivors and caregivers to learn more about their experience. The service is secure and no data will be shared or sold.

To learn more visit sloca.org/smartpatients and enter your email address in the Smart Patients widget on the screen to request an invitation to join. Once you set up your account, you can sign up for ovarian cancer and learn from other ovarian cancer survivors.

shop SLOCA



Shop the SLOCA store to show your support. Shirts can be purchased online at sloca.org or by calling 314-966-7562. Order now and shirts will be mailed directly to you.

Fight Like A Girl or Skyline short sleeve tri-blend shirts are \$15 and Fight Like A Girl long sleeve shirts can be purchased for \$20. Both prices include shipping.

Shopping For A Cause

A big thank you to our friends at Talbots in Chesterfield who hosted a shopping extravaganza on April 30.

Shoppers got discounts on merchandise and 10 percent of the day's proceeds were donated to SLOCA. Friends of SLOCA enjoyed shopping for all the newest spring and summer fashions.

This second-time event raised more than \$350.

Donations

The following donations were made to SLOCA Feb. 1, 2017 through June 26, 2017, in memory of:

Carolyn Althoff
Mr. & Mrs. Gary Goethals

Shawn Blaes
Ms. Carol Nejeleski

Josephine Bowolak
Patricia Bowolak

Scarlett Boyer Windle
Mr. & Mrs. Walter Boyer

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Mr. & Mrs. Marvin Wiegand

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Jaime Portney

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Mr. & Mrs. Jon Becker

Suzanne Starks
Ms. Cheryl Starks

DJ & Dave Sutcliffe
Ms. Susan Merrick

The following donations were made to SLOCA Feb. 1, 2017 through June 26, 2017, in honor of:

Gloria Joann Aldridge
Mr. & Mrs. Bob Hartman

Alene Becker
Cathy Orr

Cindy Becker
Marty and Jackie Lipsitz

Alicia Blaskiewicz Cohen
Mr. & Mrs. John Blaskiewicz

Annual Race Raises Awareness Of Ovarian Cancer



SLOCA is proud to partner this year with the Jorgensen family for this year's 11th annual Families Run for Ovarian Cancer ROC Star 5k and 1-mile walk/ run on **Oct. 8** in downtown St. Louis. The race starts at 8:45 a.m.

The race raises awareness of the early warning signs of ovarian cancer and support women and families as they deal with this disease, and its proceeds are donated to fund ovarian cancer research and support SLOCA's ongoing awareness programs.

The Jorgensen family started the race to honor their wife and mother, Brenda, as she waged her own personal battle with the disease. Although she lost the fight in 2011, the race continues with Brenda's spirit being an inspiration for all the participants.

Families Run for Ovarian Cancer is a race that brings families and friends together to rally around the women who are battling this illness and celebrate life, love and the human spirit.



St. Louis Blues Mascot Louie and Susan Robben

Some of the teams that have been there for many years are Team Kade and Team Boza. The captain of Team Kade is Emily Christman Roman. Emily and her sister Joan the race have a personal connection to ovarian cancer through their mother.

"This event helped to show us the power that one family with a purpose has and how much that purpose can grow," says Emily.

"FamiliesROC helped to give us something tangible to show our Mom how much she is loved and supported. While some might think, this is a simple run/walk to help raise

awareness, this event means so much more to each of the teams, survivors, care takers, friends and family members affected by this illness.

We all look forward to this event each year to celebrate Mom and all other survivors and angels.'

Chuck Mecum's wife, Debbie Boza, passed away from ovarian cancer in 2012. Every year, he gathers his family and friends to participate in the race, "The Jorgensen family is a beacon of hope and inspiration for all in the ovarian cancer community," Chuck says. "Their loving devotion to finding a cure and supporting survivors and caregivers is something we all should emulate."

Register at sloca.org.



Team Boza

How to Help

SLOCA also is looking for volunteers to help plan the event. Opportunities include packet pickup on Friday and Saturday, **Oct. 6** and **Oct. 7**, at Big River Running Company in West County. Many volunteers are needed on the day of the race including race registration, race setup, course marshals, water stop management, parking attendants, help at the finish line, entertainment and race clean up.

Sponsorships and in kind donations for the race are still needed. For more information please contact the SLOCA office at 314-966-7562 to discuss these opportunities.

- Teal Sponsor \$5,000
- Gold Sponsor \$2,500
- Silver Sponsor \$1,000
- Bronze Sponsor \$500

In kind donations on our wish list include:

- T-shirts for race participants
- Fruit
- Granola bars
- Water bottles
- Box Truck