

2010 Board Members

Karen Higano – President
 Charles Hapke – Vice President & Attorney
 Bruce Hudson – Treasurer
 Dede Dierkes – Recording Secretary
 Nancy Marron – Corresponding Secretary
 Grace Katzenberger – Past President
 Beth Hudson – Speakers Bureau
 Barbara Platzer – Membership
 Jan Paul – Publications
 Kitty Lasinski – Webmaster
 Joanne Henderson – Historian
 Merle Miller
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 Diana Padratzik

JoAnn Carter – Emeritus
 Diane Harrison – Emeritus
 Judy Parham – Emeritus
 Nancy Larson-Vomund – Emeritus
 Dr. David G. Mutch – Medical Advisor

New Members Sign On

You can join SLOCA at www.sloca.org, or by calling or contact Barb Platzer at 636-256-0029 or rbplat@sbcbglobal.net.

The following new members have joined since Sept. 1, 2010:

Lorna Anderson
 Lauri Baker
 Elizabeth Bayer
 Kelli Black
 Jeana Boarman
 Cindy and Steve Bochantin
 Shayne and Dan Brennan
 Louise Campbell
 Allison Clark
 Karen Cox
 Connie Dake
 Teresa Deshields
 Mara and Tavo Diaz-Granados
 Judy Dirkers
 Joann Dyroff
 Cynthia Erickson

Cathy Flynn
 Jennifer Howard
 Marguerite Howard
 Jennie Kausch
 Jill Murphy
 Carol and Gene Nachtweih
 Cheryl Phillips
 Melanie Schaufert
 Geri Schmidt
 Julie and William Shearborn
 Marcia Sheer
 Dorothy Steinke
 Susan Tebb
 Anita Tischler
 Shirley and Ralph Waterman
 Debbie and Donald Webber
 Debbie and Larry Weiss
 Rochelle Weiss
 Micki and Frank Wilderspin
 Linda and Donald Yatkeman
 Sandy Zahner

You can raise \$ for cancer by Living Out Loud



The elegant glass atrium of the Ameren Corporate Headquarters will be the setting for this year's Living Out Loud dinner auction to benefit St. Louis Ovarian Cancer Awareness on Saturday, April 30.

The evening will begin at 6 p.m. with a cocktail hour and silent auction. Dinner will be served at 7, as the silent auction continues. An hour later, the silent auction will close as the live auction gets under way.

SLOCA President Karen Higano is chairing the event. Assisting her and the SLOCA board with the planning is event planner Amy Cole Buehler.

The ticket price is \$100, or \$1,000 for a table of 10. Executive Dining is catering the event, and the ticket price includes an open bar and hors d'oeuvres.

Invitations are being mailed as we go to press. Tickets may be ordered online at that time at www.sloca.org or by calling SLOCA at 314-995-6220. SLOCA accepts Visa, MasterCard, American Express and Discover cards.

The reservation deadline is Friday, April 22. If you purchase seats for other guests, please supply their names to SLOCA before that deadline.

Early donations to the event include Pujols autographs, Stan Musial memorabilia, a custom brick mailbox, estate jewelry, sports tickets, a Mississippi River party cruise for 18 people, and

the opportunity to throw out the first pitch at the Cards-Cubs game on Sept. 23.

A complete list of auction items will be added to the SLOCA website closer to the date of the auction.

SLOCA is accepting donations of items or services. To offer an item, call or e-mail Karen at 314-680-9617 or hoeflerlin4@aol.com or Amy at 314-520-2029 or amybuehler@prodigy.net. Contact Amy if you want to volunteer to help plan the event or to work that evening.

Parking is complimentary in the Ameren Headquarters visitor lot and is handicap accessible. For security reasons, each person attending will need to present a photo ID to enter the building.

The Ameren Headquarters building is at 1901 Chouteau Avenue, just west of Tucker on the southern edge of downtown St. Louis.



You can bid on a party for 18 on this riverboat.

Save the dates

April 30. Living Out Loud dinner-auction. Benefits SLOCA. Location: Ameren Corporate Headquarters.

June 4. 13th Annual Cancer Survivorship Walk to benefit Cancer Support Community. Location: Creve Coeur Park.

June 25. Fund raiser at Fairmount Park. \$20 ticket covers admission, program book, food and beverage. Call Joanne Henderson (314) 894-3024 or Grace Katzenberger (314) 849-3970. Location: Fairmount Park Racetrack, Collinsville.

Aug. 28. Rise & Shine for a Cure: 108 Sun Salutations. Location: World's Fair Pavilion, Forest Park.

Sept. 14. Women & Science Lunch. Siteman Cancer Center doctors will speak on gynecologic cancers. Location: The Ritz Carlton, Clayton.

Sept. 23. Ovarian Cancer Day at Busch Stadium. Cards vs. Cubs. 7:15 p.m. \$30.

Sept. 24. Survivors Course for Ovarian and Endometrial Cancer. Free. Location: Washington University Medical School campus.

314.995.6220
www.sloca.org

St. Louis, MO 63127

P.O. Box 270067

St. Louis Ovarian Cancer Awareness

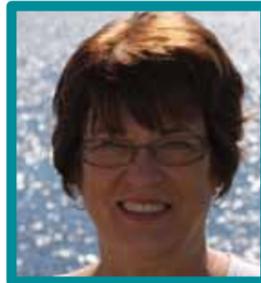
SLOCA Chatter

We need to talk

Raising awareness of ovarian cancer is a large part of SLOCA's mission. Beth Hudson has created a Speakers Bureau to take SLOCA's message to church groups, service organizations, business Lunch and Learns, sororities and parent organizations throughout metropolitan St. Louis.

The 45-minute presentation consists of a PowerPoint presentation, trained speakers who tell their stories of being diagnosed with ovarian cancer, and a time for questions and answers.

"We need your help," says Beth. "We are looking for speaking opportunities." If you belong to a group or organization that would welcome our message please contact Beth Hudson at speakers@sloca.org or at 314-821-2549. This program is offered at no cost to your organization. Please help us to spread the word about the early signs and symptoms of ovarian cancer.



Beth Hudson

Baseball tickets go on sale

Ovarian Cancer Day at Busch Stadium will occur at night this year – Friday night, Sept. 23, to be exact. The Cards will play the Cubs at 7:15 p.m. Tickets for the seats near the First Base pavilion will cost \$30 apiece and will include a hot dog and soda; they'll go on sale in April.

By selling 500 tickets, SLOCA will be guaranteed the opportunity to throw out the first pitch – a premium item that will be sold at the Living Out Loud dinner auction on April 30. To reserve your tickets, call Grace Katzenberger at 314-849-3970, or call SLOCA at 314-995-6220. Or watch the website to purchase them online.

Walk for survivorship

Barb Platzer is heading a special team from SLOCA to participate in the 13th Annual Cancer Survivorship Walk to raise money for the Cancer Support Community of Greater St. Louis on Saturday, June 4, at Creve Coeur Park.

CSC was formerly known as the Wellness Community of St. Louis; it provides free educational programs, support groups and light movement classes for people with a cancer diagnosis and their families.

The walk begins at 10 a.m., rain or shine, at the Tremayne Pavilion in Sailboat Cove. Walkers can choose a 1-mile or a 3.7-mile route.

You may register for the SLOCA team, donate funds or buy a tribute sign along the path at www.wellnesscommunitystl.org.



Barb Platzer

www.sloca.org/Default.aspx. The event has a goal to raise \$150,000. To receive an official shirt, you must donate a minimum of \$40 before May 18 or \$45 after that date.

Volunteers sign on

The SLOCA board of directors hosted a "Meet & Greet" reception on Feb. 7 to introduce its programs and volunteer opportunities to the membership. Despite inclement weather, about 30 people attended the reception at St. John's Mercy's David Pratt Center.

"Those who attended were very interested in learning more about SLOCA and wanting to help," says President Karen Higano. "Several had lost a member of their family to ovarian cancer and were ready to help carry out our mission."

Karen says the event produced volunteers for the Working Women's Survival Show and health fairs, fundraisers, compassion projects and the website and newsletter. "We hope to make this an annual event to get more people involved and help SLOCA continue to grow."



Free survivors courses planned

SLOCA is underwriting daylong parallel courses for survivors of ovarian and endometrial cancers on Saturday, Sept. 24 at the Siteman Cancer Center on the campus of Washington University Medical School. Both courses will be free.

The Gynecologic Cancer Foundation (GCF), now known as the Foundation for Women's Cancer, has sponsored many survivors' courses over the past two decades.

"The purpose of these courses is to educate women with these cancers, their families and those affected in some way by these diseases," says Dr. Dave Mutch.

A typical course presents an overview of the disease and treatments that are standards of care as well as those on the horizon. Experts in the field present the information at the level of the layperson.

According to Dr. Mutch, the courses represent an opportunity for those affected by these diseases to learn about the treatment of these diseases and to better decide on their treatment options.

Editorial

Ask the doctor



Dr. Mutch

Clinical trials are the backbone of progress in the treatment of ovarian cancer. Trials for the treatment of ovarian cancer have led to many years of increased survival in patients with this disease and, when a trial is available for patients, we believe that the standard of care is to offer such a trial to that patient. Missouri recently enacted a law stating that insurance companies must pay for Phase III and Phase II clinical trials for patients in the state of Missouri. One would think that this should make clear to insurance carriers the path that they

should take.

Unfortunately, I am finding that this is not the case. Many patients are being denied the opportunity to participate in clinical trials because their insurance company is based outside of Missouri or, worse, because it is considered a Co-op.

A case in point: One of my patients recently was eligible for a trial and she wanted to participate. The trial is far enough along that we know that it is beneficial and it actually would have been cheaper for the insurer to allow the patient to participate in the trial, as the drugs were free. Surprisingly, the company was a University of Missouri holding company and as such was able to deny this patient her opportunity to participate in the trial. It shocks me that a state-held company would be exempt from the law of the State. In my mind this is unconscionable. We have appealed my patient's case and, so far, we have failed to convince the company that the patient should be allowed to go on this trial.

This sort of thing is happening more and more. The only recourse we have is to:

- Make an appeal through the usual mechanisms allowed by that company.
- File a complaint with the Missouri Department of Insurance.
- Notify the local media.
- Notify your local legislator so that these loopholes can be closed.
- Advocate for the rights of all cancer patients to participate in trials.

Thank you for your support.

(Dr. David Mutch is a gynecologic oncologist and SLOCA's medical advisor. This edition's column is an editorial representing his views. Have a question for Dr. Mutch that would interest other survivors, patients or caregivers? Send it to info@sloca.org for possible inclusion in a later newsletter. Direct questions about an individual's health to that patient's doctor.)

Web launch coming soon

The long-delayed launch of SLOCA's redesigned website is just around the corner with a target date of mid-April.

SLOCA has been working with graphic designer Amanda Lyle and webmaster Jerry Bryan of WebSanity since last fall to revamp the website, www.sloca.org, to be more dynamic, up-to-date and useful to its viewers.

The site will group content according to a viewer's needs. If a woman has just been diagnosed with ovarian cancer, she'll be able to find the type of information that will help her get through treatment. Her caregivers and friends will find other types of information.

And people who want to volunteer for one of SLOCA's many programs, buy a t-shirt or donate to the organization will be able to easily tap into those resources.

Stay tuned.



This is a mock-up of the new homepage

Want to go green?

Teal Talks is published four times a year. We send the printed newsletter to everyone on our mailing list, and we make copies available at selected locations, such as infusion centers.

If you want to receive it only by e-mail as a pdf file, please e-mail us at newsletter@sloca.org. If you want to be added to the mailing list to receive the newsletter either in its printed or digital forms, e-mail the same address. Please include your name, street address, city, state, ZIP, telephone number and e-mail address.

Nurse Nancy retires – sort of

Nancy Larson Vomund – patients call her Nurse Nancy – officially retired from the Center for Women’s Wellness at Missouri Baptist at the end of December.

If you didn’t know her, you might be surprised to see her still tending to “my babies,” as she calls them, in the oncology room a couple of days a week. Or working the SLOCA booth at the Working Women’s Survival Show. Or checking out the items at the upcoming SLOCA dinner auction.

Of course, if she was your nurse, you wouldn’t be surprised by that at all.

Nancy has spent 35 years in nursing, the last 12 of them as a certified oncology nurse with the GYN oncology practice at MoBap. She also was one of the seven founding members of SLOCA in 2002. She sees herself as a patient advocate.

“I love my patients,” she says. “I always focus on the living. If I can’t save you, I can make your life as good as possible.”



Nancy Larson Vomund (left), at her retirement party, embraces patient Carol Barrale-Roettger.

Gynecologic oncology has changed in one big way since the day Dr. Dave Mutch hired her. “Women are living longer,” she says.

Back in 1999, “there wasn’t a support group or any organization because [for the most part] women weren’t liv-

ing,” she says. In 2002, an ovarian cancer patient named Christina Carr reached out to other patients and nurses to start a new organization, St. Louis Ovarian Cancer Awareness.

Nancy immediately said yes. “Our early goal,” she says, “was to educate about the signs and symptoms and to talk to women. We are doing that job, but we still have a lot of work to do.”

After 12 years of the hectic pace in the chemo lab, Nancy said she was feeling worn out. Now, she’s happy to work a couple of days a week, and leave the management of the infusion unit to her replacement, Nicole Christman. Outside of work, Nancy enjoys golfing and line dancing.

In honor of Nancy’s dedication, many of her colleagues, patients and friends made donations to SLOCA. The gifts totaled more than \$750.

Fall fashion show



From left: Joanne Henderson, Dr. Kevin Easley, Patty Reynolds and Grace Katzenberger.

Photo courtesy of: Diane Anderson, St. Louis Magazine

By any measure, SLOCA’s annual fall fashion show was a grand success.

Financially, the 2010 Autumn Awareness Ultimate Luncheon & Fashion Show, held on Nov. 11 at the Sheraton Westport Hotel Lakeside Chalet, netted \$16,169 for the organization.

The attendance – 345—eclipsed that at previous shows. The fashion show presented by Dillard’s under the direction of its special events director, Jerry Talamantes, featured professional models strutting along a 40-foot runway.

And the 28 vendors who sold their goods outside the luncheon venue seemed to do a brisk business. That feature was a new one for SLOCA’s fashion show and luncheon. Vendors paid \$100 a table to sell everything from address plaques to hair ribbons to purses.

“We were overwhelmed with the turnout and support for the fashion show,” says Joanne Henderson, who co-chaired the event with Grace Katzenberger. “It was a huge success.”

Working Women’s Survival Show



SLOCA volunteers at the Working Women’s Survival Show Feb. 25-27 at the St. Charles Convention Center.

Donations

The following donations were made to SLOCA in October, 2010, through February, 2011, in memory of:

Sharon Boelman

Sandy Dallas Ahlheim
Byron & Linda Apprill
Mr. & Mrs. Jerry Buck
Mr. & Mrs. Joseph Buerk
Mr. & Mrs. Keith & Stacey Ellis
Mrs. Carol Gibson
Betty & Robert Homann
Dan & Annette Hope
Larry Judd
Dennis & Debi Kiely
Mr. & Mrs. Daniel Ley
Patricia Martin
Phyllis & John Maxwell
Susan Nicholson
Ms. Madge Oldenburg
Dick & Beth Parish
Patricia Pierce
Dr. & Mrs. M.G. Rehme
Larry & Kathy Rowland
William & Janice Svoboda
Linda Willis
Marilyn Willis
Ruth Zacher

Aunt Bonnie

Debby Anzalone

Nancy Clukies

Robert & Jo Anne Bentrup
Darlene Boylan
Janet Brawley
Melissa Bredbenner
Mr. & Mrs. Don Britt
Patricia Brooks
Jim & Cathy Buford
Sarah Buford
Lisa & James Clavin
Edward R. Clukies

Wanda Darr
Cyrce Davis
Elmer & Dorothy Dochnal
Mrs. Stephanie Doyle
Teddy Gruener
Amanda Hoff
Mrs. Judith Hoffman
Arlene L. Hohlstein
Kathy Huis
Tony & Jill Jones
K.C. Iron & Metal, Inc.
Tony & Janice Kazda
Mrs. Mary Kiser
Virginia Kozel
Carla Lake
Jackie Lake
Tina Lake-Hopper
Kori Linek
Jennifer Lodewyck
Jeremy, Dennis, Ryan & Sandra Meahl
Mr. Edward O. Merz
Metal Exchange Corp.
Mary Mohre
Kendra Newman
Tim & Chris O’Brien
Mrs. Danielle Otte
Nancy M. Otte
Butch Otto
Bill & Ann Paradoski
Ronald & Anna Reuss
Jaime Sanders-Giger
Mr. & Mrs. Jim & Ellen Sanders
Dave & Debbie Schiro
Mrs. Rebecca Schuder
Mr. & Mrs. Robert Stadler, Jr.
Ms. Sue Stebe
Bill Taylor
Cheryl Waites
Kristal Watson
Barbara Webster
Mr. & Mrs. Robert Whitehead
Kalli Zavorka

Elsa Cohen

Bob & Libby Stone

Adeline Cramer

Bill & Sandra Peck
Bob & Libby Stone

Norman DeWoskin

Stanley & Joan Hollander

Mary Ann Fernandez

Sheri Petruso Family

Shirley Goodman

Bob & Libby Stone

Marlene (Buffy) Griesedieck

Katherine & Stephen Albers
Julia Biedenstein
Zita M. Cafazza
Tammy LaPlant

Mildred Levy

Bob & Libby Stone

Edward Meiser

Bob & Libby Stone

Rosemarie Micka

Jim & Mary Kramper
Shirley Kramper
Robert Ruzicka

Barbara Kutler Peck

Bill & Sandra Peck

Dorothy Peck

Bob & Libby Stone

Virginia Quinlan

Bob & Libby Stone

Rhea Ruble

Ashley Krupinski

Lee Schwartz

Bob & Libby Stone

Laurie Segal

Andre Segal

Ronnie Shadoff

Bob & Libby Stone

Mary Barbara Smith

Marian Breidenbach
Nathan Burrow
Kathy & Ron Rogers
Janet Smith
JoAnn Vatcha
Grace Wayant

Katheryna Sneed

Debbie DiFranco

Louise Tapella

Anna Gnade

Jean Vehlewald

Lisa Mueller

Thelma Wong

Gordon & Ruth Clark
Leonard & Rose Marie Mastey

Donations in memory or in honor of someone may be made to SLOCA online at www.sloca.org or by mailing a check to P.O. Box 270067, St. Louis, MO 63127. SLOCA is a 501(c)3 tax-exempt organization.