2005 Rare Chair Affair

The ballroom at the Rochester Convention Center looked gorgeous on the evening of October 1st, 2005. The room was circled with tables full of artistic pieces: vases, trays, paintings, bowls, and yes, chairs. Lots of chairs. The chairs were everywhere!

Each table at the Gala this year was beautifully decorated with centerpieces created by Scott and Shawn Johnson and generously donated by Jim and Carla Froehler of the People’s Pottery, one of our Gold Sponsors. The pink glass flowers with yellow glass centers on brushed steel stems of each centerpiece, was set in a shallow bowl of moss and wax flowers donated by Wisteria Flowers and Gifts. It was so elegant!

At each place setting was a small green velvet pouch with this year’s charm created again by Andrea Fiandach-Coulter. The 2005 silver charm featured an angel chair with outstretched wings.

Our Premier sponsor, Excellus Blue Cross Blue Shield, who has been with BCCR its first Rare Chair Affair, was well represented. We couldn’t do what we do without them. Cobber Press, also a Gold Ribbon Sponsor, provided the beautiful programs that gave our guests the inside story on the whole affair.

Mike Deming was again our auctioneer and did a stellar job as always, cheerfully prodding people to spend money on the Silent Auction and entertaining everyone as he conducted the Live Auction later in the evening. Maureen McGuire returned as our mistress of ceremonies and was her usual charming and accomplished self.

Dr. Jennifer Griggs was the honoree at this year’s affair and received the Advocate’s Spirit Award that recognizes the efforts and accomplishments of those whose work best exemplifies the spirit of the breast cancer advocate. She graciously accepted the award and was joined by the family of Harriet Susskind Rosenblum. One of her patients, Kim Miller, came to the event on a three-hour pass from the hospital to see her favorite physician receive the award, despite her debilitated condition from her breast cancer. What a tribute this alone was to Dr. Griggs! Both Dr. Griggs’ and Kim’s family were also present.

Shawn Dunwoody, a newcomer to our fundraiser, created one of the rarest of chairs. His was called “Where are my Keys?” and the chair (see above) wore red rubber boots, had leg hair, mirrors and a magnetic surface to put words on. It was a multifunctional chair continued on page 7...
The leaves are all down, snow is in the air and the short days of winter are upon us. Winter is here, a perfect time for long walks in the crisp air, hot tea with an old friend, and reflection upon the events of the past year. The survivors among us survived another “Breast Cancer Awareness” month and many of us had much to be thankful for when we sat down for Thanksgiving dinner with our families this year. So much has already been accomplished, yet we are already making bold plans for what must happen in 2006 and beyond. According to Ralph Waldo Emerson, nothing great was ever accomplished without enthusiasm. And, reflecting on these past few months, the enthusiasm definitely reached new heights here at the Breast Cancer Coalition. While you will read much about what we have been up to within these pages, this column will focus on perhaps the biggest and most dramatic accomplishment for the Coalition this past year.

The first half of the year found us waging a bitter battle with the lawn industry as we stepped up our efforts to see the enactment of legislation that would require pesticide applicators to notify neighbors 48 hours in advance before spraying an abutting lawn here in Monroe County. Beginning in January when County Executive Maggie Brooks announced her support of our efforts before the Environment and Public Works Committee and, finally, addressing the full Monroe County legislature, we watched in awe as Republicans, Democrats, Independents, CEOs, homemakers, physicians, psychologists, artists, scientists, mothers, fathers, teachers, organic farmers, social workers… all concerned about reducing exposure to the toxins present in pesticides… took the microphone and, one by one, spoke deliberately and articulately about the issue. The message was clear: let us know in advance when toxins, including known endocrine disruptors, are going to be sprayed next door. In an astounding victory, the legislature voted 21-8 in favor of the law, joining 13 other counties in New York State who already have enacted the legislation.

Our thanks to Lynda Garner Goldstein for carrying this issue before the legislature for us on three separate occasions, to President of the Monroe County Legislature, Wayne Zyra, for his incredible patience and stamina as he stood through what must have seemed like endless speaker rosters month after month, to Minority Leader Stephanie Aldersley and Majority Leader Bill Smith for doing everything possible to see that this issue had bipartisan support, and, finally, to County Executive Maggie Brooks for championing our cause and for signing this law in June.

As this issue demonstrated, bridges can be built across political canyons. This law takes effect January 2006. And just how do we accomplish all that we do? It’s how we always accomplish things. Our wonderful, dedicated, beautifully creative, visionary volunteers make anything possible. For all who have chaired a committee this year or launched a fundraiser for us… for all who have rolled up their sleeves and gotten busy… for all who have laughed with us, cried with us, celebrated and grieved with us… thank you. It’s all because of you.

There is clearly something for everyone here at the Breast Cancer Coalition. For those who want to see breast cancer eradicated, join our Research or Advocacy Committees. For those who want to see continuation of the quality programs that have become our hallmark, there is plenty of room for you on the Programs Committee. For those of you who like the challenge of fundraising, we’ll make it fun. And for those of you who are a bit unsure, pick up the phone or send us an e-mail. We’ll help you find your niche.

Simply, to those of you whose goal it is to make a difference in the fight against breast cancer, join us. There is strength in numbers. Only by coming together can we make the necessary difference. □

Ask the Expert

Do you have a question about your diagnosis? Your chemo? Reconstructive surgery? Herceptin? Complementary therapies?
Send us your questions and we’ll find the right expert to answer you! That’s right, your very own experts!

Send your questions to: BCCR, 840 University Avenue, Rochester, NY 14607, or info@bccr.org.
How Breast Cancer Changed the Meaning of Lunch for Me

by Jean Lazeroff

I have a standing lunch date on Fridays. Nearly every Friday at noon you will find me sitting around the table at the BCCR with a courageous and lively group of breast cancer survivors. Since my breast cancer diagnosis in November 2003, bringing my lunch to Brown Bag has become something I look forward to each week. Some weeks there may only be four or five of us and some weeks we can barely fit around the tables. Each woman has had a different experience with breast cancer and is at a different place in her journey. What we share, however, is hope, support, information, and experiences. Mixed in with discussions of surgery, reconstruction, treatment options, and treatment symptoms is lots of laughter and amazing collective energy. It’s a group of very special women!

The BCCR has created this unique informal opportunity for breast cancer patients and survivors to network with each other for support and education. Through these weekly discussions with my new friends at the BCCR I have learned to take charge of my treatment, ask the right questions of my health care providers, advocate for myself, and seek second opinions on treatment options. After learning I had bilateral breast cancer I was faced with so many decisions and so much to learn about the disease and its treatment. My doctors provided information plus I had a stack of breast cancer books and countless Internet sites at my fingertips. All of these resources were helpful and I learned a great deal from them, but none compared to what I learned by sharing lunch each week with other women that had “been there.” I learned not only from the experiences they shared but also from their strength, resiliency, and determination to win their battle with breast cancer.

Now it’s time for me to begin giving back. On many Fridays there is a new face at the table. Another woman who has just been diagnosed with breast cancer has joined us. Another woman, who may be as scared and confused as I was, has walked into a Brown Bag Friday gathering. It feels good to be at a point where I can provide information, support, and hope to a newly diagnosed woman. By being a part of the BCCR community, I have joined a remarkable group who support and care about each other, learn from each other, and reach out to others on a similar trek. As I have journeyed from diagnosis to surgery and onto survivorship, the BCCR has become one of the many things I am thankful for. That’s why I am going to continue to hang around here at BCCR!

Brown Bag Friday is Every Friday
When it’s the end of the week and it is time to unwind…
join us for a bit of R & R!

Where else can you find a young Mom of three, a retired school teacher, a master gardener, a court reporter, an executive director, a community activist, a piano teacher, an actress, a writer, a cub scout leader, a homemaker, a school psychologist, a pediatric nurse, an interior decorator and others sitting around chatting over last night’s meatloaf, soup from Nathan’s on Park, salad from Wendy’s, or fruit and yogurt? At the Breast Cancer Coalition! Any given Friday at noon finds a group of women conversing over whatever-they-brought-to-eat and a delectable dessert provided by staff member Nancy De Witt.

The conversation runs the gamut… from the latest research on Herceptin to our own locally-funded research initiatives… from hair loss to funky re-growth… from neoadjuvant therapy to the latest clinical trials… from acid reflux to exercise… from recurring dreams to friends and family’s behavior… from prosthetics to bathing suits… from The Apprentice to Desperate Housewives… and on and on and on. The sky’s the limit… and there IS no limit!

On one beautiful day of Summer, brown baggers carried a table out onto the lawn!

This non-traditional support group, in that there is no facilitator but there is plenty of support, is exactly what many of us have been looking for. This is a drop-in program. There is no need to call ahead, however if you would like more information, please call (585) 473-8177.
The Oak Tree

It stole the oak tree’s leaves away.
Then snapped its boughs and pulled its bark,
until the oak tree was tired and stark.

But still the oak tree held its ground
while other trees fell all around.
The weary wind gave up and spoke,
“How can you still be standing, Oak?”

The oak tree said, “I know that you
can break each branch of mine in two,
carry every leaf away,
shake my limbs, and make me sway.

But I have roots stretched in the earth;
growing stronger since my birth.
You’ll never touch them, for you see,
they are the deepest part of me.

Until today, I wasn’t sure
of just how much I could endure.
But now I’ve found, with thanks to you,
I’m stronger than I ever knew.”

Author unknown
Thank you to Bonnie Oyer for sharing this poem with us.

Breast Cancer 101 … a program for the newly diagnosed

You hear the words in disbelief “I’m sorry … you have breast cancer.” Soon the rushing sound in your brain quiets enough to know you need to act. But what to do? How to do it? Where to start?
This program provides information and support to those who are coping with a breast cancer diagnosis. Most are making decisions about surgery and treatment, however quite a few have recently begun chemotherapy and are taking the course because, as one states, “I finally feel like I have a chance to catch my breath.” Information is divided into two sessions.

The content of the sessions covers breast cancer diagnosis, treatment, and recovery. The goals of the program are to assist participants in managing the complex tasks and emotions of a breast cancer diagnosis and to empower women to be their own self-advocates as they proceed through treatment, recovery and survivorship.

Our professional facilitators are eager to provide a safe, comfortable atmosphere where information can be absorbed and assimilated, while formulating a strategy for coping with each individual’s breast cancer experience.

Please call (585) 473-8177 for a time that is convenient for you.
Welcome to Holly Garver
We extend a warm welcome to Holly Garver, who joined the BCCR staff in mid-September. Holly is helping out with myriad tasks, such as updating the mailing list, coordinating thank you letters for the Rare Chair Affair and working on the newsletter. Holly served this year as the Chairperson of the Artists Committee for the Rare Chair Affair and plans to continue in that role in 2006. Holly is a Family Nurse Practitioner and Womens Health NP who has been on hiatus raising her family. Holly joins the BCCR staff members Holly Anderson, Nancy De Witt, and Barb Pifer. Please stop in and welcome her in person!

Phyllis Connelly, Our Woman of Distinction
Anyone who knows Phyllis Connelly knows how special she is. That she was awarded a 2005 Women of Distinction Award is no surprise, it is simply public recognition for what her friends and family already know. Of course, the advocacy work Phyllis has done helps women that she doesn’t and will never know – women who are unable to afford mammograms and can now have access to the best diagnostic and treatment facilities for their breast cancers. Her award celebrates that part of her so well. Phyllis shines at speaking up when she needs to, standing up to what is wrong in the government and working hard and long. And at the end of the day, no one laughs as easily nor forgets to give a hug when she sees someone needs one. Phyllis has lent her unique touch to so many and in so many ways. She is truly a woman of distinction. Congratulations Phyllis!

Mary Valerio, Mover & Shaker!
Congratulations to Breast Cancer Coalition member Mary Valerio for her recent re-election to the Monroe County Legislature. Mary, a three-year breast cancer survivor, represents the 3rd District, which includes most of Chili. She was appointed to the Legislature in January of 2004 and was elected to a one-year term in November 2004. This November, she was elected to a full four-year term. Mary has written openly about her breast cancer experience and has been a dedicated advocate on matters of concern to the survivor community. Way to go, Mary!!!!

Megan Dombroski, Our Favorite Cover Girl!
Megan, founder of our Sister Sak Project and diagnosed with breast cancer at age 32, has wasted no time in making a difference in the lives of young women and families impacted by breast cancer. Megan, as well as other Sister Sak Project members, can be seen around town hauling Sister Saks to newly diagnosed “sisters”, often with children in tow. The Sister Sak Project, now over a year old, is funded through direct donations specified to the project. Megan joins another Breast Cancer Coalition face, our Executive Director Holly Anderson in her Rochester Woman Magazine debut. Holly was featured on the cover of the October 2002 issue. Congratulations to Megan and thank you to Rochester Woman Magazine for recognizing this remarkable and talented breast cancer survivor!

Hats off to Kelli Schwert!
Hats off to Kelli! Her book, The ABC’s of Breast Cancer (Breastless Chest Press) has just received its ISBN number from the Library of Congress and is now ready for production. Kelli, who delights us all with her hilarious stories during lunch at Brown Bag Friday, is an Occupational Therapist for the Spencerport School District. Kelli plans to distribute her book through a variety of local outlets, however if you can’t wait to get your copy, we can send you one. A special thanks to Kelli for Designating 50% of all proceeds from the sale of this book to the Breast Cancer Coalition of Rochester. Let those pages fly!

Hats off to Kelli Schwert!

Kelli kayaking with friend Vikki Kolb during “Tuesday evenings on the Bay”
HER-2/neu… Herceptin… Her What?

by Holly Anderson

Herceptin (trastuzumab) is the big topic in breast cancer news these days. Many breast cancer patients/survivors are wondering whether they might have benefited from this remarkable therapy. Trastuzumab was the first humanized antibody approved for the treatment of HER-2/neu positive breast cancer patients and, until recently, was approved for use only in those with metastatic breast cancer. The big news, published in The New England Journal of Medicine (October 20, 2005), is that two randomized, prospective Phase III clinical trials involving 3,351 women produced data that demonstrated significant and clinically important improvements in disease-free survival. In one of the trials, there was a stunning 51% reduction in risk of recurrence when trastuzumab was added to the standard chemotherapy arm of the study. The trials ended early (April 2005) after interim data showed better-than-expected results for the women getting trastuzumab.

So just what does it mean to be HER-2/neu positive?

Following removal of breast cancer tissue, whether by biopsy, lumpectomy, or mastectomy, the specimen is examined by a pathologist for many things that help to determine treatment options. This important member of your breast cancer treatment team will characterize the breast cancer by what type of tissue it arose from (i.e. ductal or lobular), how abnormal it looks (grade), whether or not it is invading surrounding tissues and, in the case of lumpectomy, whether or not there are any breast cancer cells left at the margins. The pathologist will test the cancer cells for the presence of estrogen and progesterone receptors as well as the receptor HER-2/neu (hereafter referred to as HER2). Approximately two-thirds of the women diagnosed with breast cancer test positive for estrogen receptors. The presence of estrogen and progesterone receptors is important because cancers that have those receptors can be treated with hormonal therapies such as Tamoxifen or Arimidex, other life-extending treatments, HER2 overexpression is less common, occurring in only 25% of women.

HER2 is a gene that helps to regulate how cells grow, divide, and repair themselves. About one out of four breast cancers has too many copies of the HER2 gene. The HER2 gene directs the production of special proteins, called HER2 receptors, in cancer cells. Cancers with too many copies of the HER2 gene or too many HER2 receptors tend to grow fast. Having either of these present is associated with an increased risk of breast cancer spread, however they do respond very well to treatment that works against HER2. This treatment is called anti-HER2 antibody therapy and this is where trastuzumab comes in.

Trastuzumab offers no benefit to patients whose tumors do not overexpress the HER2 protein, therefore careful testing must be done before patients are offered this therapy.

There are two tests for HER-2:

IHC test (ImmunoHistoChemistry): The IHC test shows if there is too much HER2 receptor protein in the cancer cells.

The results of IHC testing can be 0 (negative), 1+ (negative), 2+ (borderline), or 3+ (positive).

FISH test (Fluorescence In Situ Hybridization) The FISH test shows if there are too many copies of the HER-2 gene in the cancer cells. The results of the FISH test can be “positive” (extra copies) or “negative” (normal number of copies). Only breast cancers that test IHC “3+” or FISH “positive” will respond well to therapy that works against HER-2 overexpression. An IHC 2+ test result is called borderline. If you have a 2+ result, you can and should ask to have the tissue tested with the FISH test.

It is important to keep in mind that there are risks and benefits to every breast cancer therapy. Previous studies of trastuzumab have shown that the drug increases the risk of congestive heart failure in some patients. In congestive heart failure, the heart has trouble beating normally because of damage to the heart muscle. Women with risk factors for congestive heart failure were not eligible to enroll in the trials. A disadvantage to ending these trials is that other potentially serious and long-term effects will not be known in advance of utilizing this type of therapy in those with a primary diagnosis of breast cancer.

Consult with your care provider for more information about HER2 and Herceptin.
**Program Coordinator’s Year in Review**

The old adage that “time passes quickly when you’re having fun” has never been proven so true as it has for me since I started as Program Coordinator at BCCR. When I first interviewed for the position, little did I know what the first year held in store for me.

My first weeks saw me jumping right into the September programs: Physician Panel Discussion of area treatment centers, the 2nd Annual Terri Schmitt Legislative Reception, the Artists’ Reception and the Rare Chair Affair. It was definitely an exciting few weeks and I knew right away that BCCR was a special place. October brought the research grant program and December the Holiday Open House. January rolled in with the Mind, Body and Spirit program and February brought the “48 Hour Neighbor Notification Forum”. The Advanced Breast Cancer Seminar started off the month of April and ended with a very well attended program on “Chemopause”. May was a busy month with the Pink Ribbon Run, the Lilac Festival and a program on Lymphedema. And of course every Friday at noon, the Brown Baggers join us to share their journey with breast cancer. In June, “After Breast Cancer” program was presented and July brought “Lives Touched, Lives Celebrated” in the beautiful gardens of the Rochester Museum and Science Center, a warm and touching tribute to those who have been touched by breast cancer. July also brought beautiful warm weather for the annual golf tournament. August was busy with a weekend at the Park Avenue Festival and later in the month, a program on “Diagnosing Breast Cancer.” September started it all over again as I celebrated my first anniversary at the BCCR.

I want to thank the endless number of volunteers who help out with the monthly education programs, the health fairs, the festivals, the fundraisers and many other tasks. Without them, my job would be difficult. I am grateful for everyone that I have met over the past year. The women and men who have been touched by breast cancer have touched my heart with their courage, grace and strength. I consider myself lucky to have found such a wonderful group of people to work with. I’m looking forward to another full and exciting year at BCCR. ☑

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**2005 Rare Chair Affair, continued**

that raised a good deal of money for the BCCR and was enjoyed by many. Shawn and his chair were rare finds.

Cindy Caprio-Orsini and Maia Horvath, as Artistic d’Anjou, who make one of their chair creations every year for the Breast Cancer Coalition, didn’t think they could join the Rare Chair Affair this year. Holly Garver, the chairperson of the Artists Committee begged them to try, but not hearing back from them, thought they had too many other commitments. Then, they appeared bearing an incredible creation that incorporated many features of their previous chairs. This one had wings, stained glass windows, figures and two women seated on a sofa together, lit by a soft light. It also was the top seller at the live auction portion of the Gala. They completed the piece in only a few days. Cindy and Maia are rare friends to the BCCR.

Kathy Rouvina’s desk and chair set, painted a lovely pale yellow and covered in vines and white morning glories was a tribute not only to her fine artistic skills but also to her strength as a woman. Her husband worked on this piece with her and after his sudden death in July, Kathy continued on, finished it and still donated it to the Rare Chair Affair. Her courage during such a sad and challenging part of her life will not be forgotten.

Once again, the Rare Chair Affair included those special vinyl chairs made in honor of comic book heroes. This year it was Batman and Robin – the “Dynamic Chair Duo”, created by returning artists Barb Pifer, Craig Roberts and Jeff Johnson. The chairs even had satin capes! The bidding was fast and furious and, in the end, a very delighted collector of comic book hero chairs from previous years won them.

Dr. Wende Logan Young created a brand new, yet ancient, necklace for the live auction. Her “Ancient Fossil Necklace” included tiny fossils along with new beads. It was an exquisite design by Dr. Logan Young, who enjoys her avocation in jewelry design.

It would take volumes to describe all of the treasures found in the 2005 Rare Chair Affair; this is just a sampling. In 2006, there will be a new theme. Our largest fundraiser will have a new face and a new name. It will be just as “rare” and, we hope, just as well received.

Please consider joining us as we kick off the Breast Cancer Coalition of Rochester’s “ARTrageous Affair!” It will be held on Saturday, October 7 at Rochester’s Riverside Convention Center, so please save the date! ☑
Volunteer Opportunities

by Holly Garver

“But I don’t have a lot of extra time.”
“I don’t have breast cancer.”
“Am I old enough (too old) to volunteer?”
“What could I possibly do?”

These questions and remarks are pretty common at the Breast Cancer Coalition of Rochester or are heard by those of us who work here when we’re out in the community. Many people want to help but aren’t sure how or don’t have a lot of time to volunteer.

At the BCCR we can accommodate many kinds of volunteer work and welcome your help! At our annual Pink Ribbon Run and Family Fitness Walk you and your kids can help us with directing our runners, helping out at the end of the race or many other jobs. It’s a lot of fun for everyone!

The Pink Ribbon Run and Family Fitness Walk also has many committees for planning and putting together this totally fun event. This is one the whole family can volunteer for!

“Weed-Off at Breast Cancer” is the annual golf tournament fundraiser. Naturally, like all fundraisers, it takes lots of planning and lots of extra hands to make it all happen. We always need volunteers to be a part of that. Give us a call and be a part of our golf tournament!

We can always use help at our booths at the Lilac Festival, the Park Avenue Festival, and the Corn Hill and Clothesline Festivals where we hand out literature and sell our scarves, keychains, bracelets, etc., to raise funds. The shifts can be short and you can shop afterwards!

At our center at 840 University Avenue, you can share your experience with others if you have had breast cancer yourself. Call us at 585-473-8177 for more information. It can be healing for you and the person you reach out to.

Also, we host many programs for women with breast cancer and their families. Our Programs Committee meets on the first Wednesday of every month at noon. Bring your lunch and give us your input on educational programming. Be an active part of the planning, assessment, implementation and evaluation of new groups such as support groups, monthly education sessions, celebrations, commemorations, creative workshops and much more. The field is wide open. Bring your ideas!

The Research Committee meets every other month on an ongoing basis. Speak up on the issues of what gets funded in the breast cancer arena in our region and how to secure that funding. Learn to advocate for breast cancer and yourself!

The Advocacy Committee meets on the second Tuesday of every month at noon. This is another occasion to bring your own lunch and your own voice. This is where local, state and national issues are discussed. Join a discussion about environmental issues and how this affects those concerned with breast cancer. Consider access to healthcare for all women and how research for breast cancer is funded. Discuss how every voice and every vote matters and become involved! This is the group that tries to affect changes in public policy works to enact important changes in legislation. Finally, the largest fundraiser for the past four years, the Rare Chair Affair, newly titled the “ARTrageous Affair” in 2006, always needs volunteers. Our committees form early in the year to start working on all aspects of the October affair and as the year progresses, our needs blossom. As we near the big day, we always need help moving things, helping at the event, etc. Even a few hours of time can be valuable!

So let us know what you are able to do as a volunteer and we will work with you to find the right spot for you. We are grateful for our volunteers and have many opportunities for you! Call us at 585-473-8177 for more information. ❝
The passionate battle over public safety was put to rest when the Monroe County Legislature voted to “Opt In” on the 48 Hour Neighbor Notification Bill, ensuring that commercial pesticide applicators would be required to give 48 hours written notice to neighbors within 150 feet of a commercially sprayed pesticide application. Spot applications less than 10 square feet and granular applications are exempt from this legislation. This law will take effect on January 1, 2006.

For BCCR’s Advocacy Committee, chaired by Melisande “Mel” Bianchi, this vote celebrated a victory that was several years in the making. The state law, enacted in June of 2000, authorized counties to adopt laws that established notification requirements for commercial and residential lawn application. However, Monroe County wasn’t interested until County Executive Maggie Brooks took up this cause. Announcing support of this law during her State of the County Address in January of this year, BCCR’s bipartisan breast cancer community hooted and hollered while listening to the public address on television that evening. Spotted in the front row of special guests just behind Maggie Brooks were Holly Anderson and Mel Bianchi.

BCCR worked tirelessly alongside such groups as Rochesterians Against the Misuse of Pesticides (RAMP), Sierra Club, Citizens for Environment, and NYPIRG to educate the community about the law and to highlight the growing body of scientific evidence that demonstrates increased risk for several diseases with exposure to toxins present in pesticides. BCCR assembled teams of medical and industry experts for a panel discussion in February, which helped to answer questions about the dangers of exposure. For those that spoke at the many Legislative community review forums, it was a welcome sigh of relief to know that public outcry over “health choice” had been heard by our elected officials.

At risk, according to “Opt In” advocates, was the right to make personal choices for family safety, while the pesticide applicators would attempt to sell fear and doubt about the viability of their industry if Monroe County should consider public safety first. Notification would provide an opportunity for homeowners to choose whether windows would be left open, vegetable gardens covered, picnic tables and grills protected and would allow families the right to decide what precautionary measures would be taken to protect children, the elderly, and pets in their care.

All of us united behind the principle that hindsight is always 20/20, we now know that lead, DEET, asbestos, cigarettes and many other substances once thought “safe” have terrible health consequences to humans. As Melisande Bianchi reminded the legislature at one of the community hearings, “pesticide drift is an attack on the unwilling.” As of January 2006, the attack has been quelled. ☐

The 48-Hour Notification Bill at a Glance

- 48 hours advance notice must be given to owners of property abutting the lawn to be treated.
- When pesticides are applied to an area greater than 100 square feet visible markers must be placed along the perimeter on the day of application that must stay in place for 24 hours.
- Stores selling pesticides must post signs warning customers to follow label directions, inform them of posting requirements and recommending them that they notify their neighbors before they apply the pesticide.
- Schools have to give written notice to staff and parents at the beginning of each school year about the use of pesticides and giving parents the option of 48-hour notice and how to receive it. They have to repeat this 3 times a year.
- Schools have to give this 48-hour notice to all parents who requested it prior to applying any pesticides to school property.
- Day care centers have to follow the same kind of procedure as schools in providing 48-hour notice to parents before using any pesticides.
- Additional information on pesticides used in a particular county can be found online at the Cornell website: http://pmep.cce.cornell.edu ☐
You can help other breast cancer survivors by sharing your breast cancer care experiences. The National Breast Cancer Coalition is asking women with breast cancer who have had problems with accessing timely, quality health care to share their stories. These personal accounts will be used to put a human face on the struggle to assure that those with breast cancer have access to quality health care.

The accounts range from those who were not diagnosed in a timely way to those whose radiation or chemotherapy treatments were interrupted because of lapses in insurance. According to NBBC figures, almost 40% of the respondents so far believed that they lacked information to make decisions about treatments. Over 20% lost employment/health care coverage after being diagnosed, and 25% felt that they were not treated with respect.

Guaranteed access to quality health care is essential to ensuring that those with breast cancer get the care they need when they need it. Anything less is unacceptable. Quality care means full access to the best care available-care based on sound scientific evidence and delivered in a respectful and timely manner.

By gathering and sharing personal stories that illustrate how the system is succeeding or failing to deliver quality health care to everyone who needs it, the NBCC hopes to promote change in the health care delivery system. These stories are used in presentations to Congress and to organizations that have the power to develop and change policies and programs that impact the care of breast cancer patients.

We are very fortunate here in Rochester to have a high level of quality health care in comparison to many parts of the country, however this does not always assure that everyone receives the same level of care. We would particularly like to hear from young women with breast cancer, women of color, and those who have had problems with insurance coverage that impacted diagnosis and/or treatment. Care providers are also encouraged to share their stories.

You can send your story to us at info@bccr.org or you can call us at (585) 473-8177.
Book Review

Breast Cancer Husband, authored by Marc Silver

Reviewed by Tom McJury

It's not clear to me how I happened upon Marc Silver’s book Breast Cancer Husband: How to Help Your Wife (and Yourself) during Diagnosis, Treatment and Beyond. Perhaps it was one of those “customers-who-bought-this-book-also-bought” suggestions on Amazon.com. What is clear to me is that this book turned out to be the definitive beacon of light that guided me through the process of supporting my soulmate through her own battle.

My wife’s diagnosis in November 2004 caught us completely by surprise (as it does for many people with no family history or common risk factors). After recovering from the initial shock we began the search for information to fight the battle head on. Someone gave us the advice to “stay off the internet,” so books seemed to be the most practical alternative. While most books are focused (as you would expect) on the patient and the medical aspects of the disease, this book stood out. Wanting desperately to help my wife, I immediately placed an order for the book.

I’m sure many of you know of the incredibly steep learning curve post-diagnosis. The initial flurry of new words and information can be quite overwhelming. When I cracked the cover of this book, everything changed. The book is divided into two sections, Dealing with Diagnosis and Treatment and Beyond. The Dealing with Diagnosis section begins by “unwelcoming” you to the club, then immediately delves into the very emotional elements that await you. The first topic is quite sobering, noting that – although most men don’t walk out on their wives – there’s more than one way to abandon her. This is followed by what it takes to be a caregiver, how to deal with feelings (both partners), talking to the children, and how to defuse family friction (think both her and our parents). The last chapter of the section talks about your role as an “Appointment Pal,” and provides an excellent transition to the next section.

At first glance, the Treatment and Beyond section flows very much like the common treatment plans, first discussing various surgeries, then chemotherapy and radiation. However, you quickly learn that it is the chapters interspersed between the medical information that provides you with the ability to completely support your spouse or partner. These address very specific and sensitive topics, including a chapter that highlights the impact a mastectomy will have on your wife and a chapter on your role in the breast replacement decision process (brilliantly subtitled “Shut Up and Listen”). Also included are chapters on chemo-induced hair loss, metastatic disease, facing death, and closes with a chapter on “The New Normal,” which discusses life after treatment ends.

It would be very possible to present these topics in a clinical, dry fashion. This book couldn’t be further from that. You will quickly become engaged with his style of writing, his excellent sourcing of information, and – believe it or not – just the right measure of humor. I still find myself turning to it as a resource, a good friend who I can check in with. As you read you will find yourself laughing, crying, taking notes…it is truly an invaluable, intelligent, tender and empathetic resource.

Editor’s note: Our Evening Seminar focus for June 2006 will be on husbands/partners of those diagnosed with breast cancer.

Center Update

Our home at 840 University Avenue will soon be much larger, thanks to the opening of a new space adjacent to our present location. The new room, designed by decorator and BCCR friend Lisa Winter, will have colors in a golden palette, high ceilings and plenty of light. Think “shabby chic”.

An announcement will be made when the room is completed and to celebrate, a grand opening will be held. Be ready to join us in our new and improved center!

The Resource Center is Expanding!

Thanks to the success of the Bosom Buddies Cookbook, the Resource Center is expanding. It is a cozy room full of books you can either curl up and read here or borrow to read at home. Stop by and see what we have. New books arrive all the time!
How Can BCCR Programs Help YOU?

by Kathy Reilly

The BCCR Programs Committee, led by Co-Chairs Kathy Reilly and Nancy Cooper, seeks to offer programs that will support and educate you through every step of your breast cancer journey.

At noon each Friday, we have what we affectionately call “Brown Bag”, which is an informal gathering of women in varying stages of treatment who come together to talk about their experiences and encourage each other. We offer a more traditional support group for women whose breast cancer has metastasized. Nancy Cooper, a clinical psychologist who specializes in group process and individual therapy, facilitates this support group.

BC 101, for those who are newly diagnosed with breast cancer and BC 201, for those whose breast cancer has spread beyond the breast, are educational sessions that meet one-on-one to help you understand your diagnosis and treatment options. Sessions are led by breast cancer survivors whose training includes health education and/or nursing. A comprehensive Resource Center with a wide variety of books is equipped with a computer and Internet access to help you gather information that can help you make informed decisions.

Monthly seminars are held on the fourth Wednesday of every month from 7:00 to 9:00 PM. In recent months we have had everything from a panel of doctors representing the local cancer centers to topics such as chemopause, lymphedema, life after breast cancer, and relationships. We’ve also had updates in surgery, reconstruction, chemotherapy and radiation therapies. See our Calendar of Events (page 26) for upcoming seminars and events. If there is a topic of interest missing, do not despair! We are always interested in your ideas and would welcome comments and suggestions. There is no charge for participation in any of BCCR’s programs.

Care to join us in the planning of future programs and events? We would love to have you! □

Breast Cancer Coalition of Rochester’s Greater Finger Lakes Breast Cancer Research Collaborative $50,000 Award to be Announced in January

The BCCR Research Review Panel met on Thursday, October 20, 2005 to determine which breast cancer research proposal would be the recipient of the BCCR’s $50,000 award. In attendance were scientific panelists Matthew Allen, PhD and Nick Gonchoroff, PhD, of SUNY Upstate Medical University, Mesut Muyan, DVM, PhD and Brian Smith, MD, of the University of Rochester School of Medicine and Barbour Warren, PhD from Cornell University in Ithaca, NY. Five survivor advocates also participated on the panel. They were Holly Anderson, Beth Aten, Kathy Clark, Peg Jacobson and Kathy Willison. Carol Mullin, Chair of the Research Advisory Board and the Research Committee, served as moderator.

This distinguished panel reviewed several research proposals received from Roswell Park Cancer Institute, Cornell University, and the University of Rochester. The Research Advisory Review Panel made their recommendation to the Breast Cancer Coalition of Rochester’s Board of Directors in November.

The final decision will be announced and celebrated in January. Stay tuned! □

More Programs …

The Advanced Breast Cancer group is designed to lend support to those who are coping with a diagnosis of breast cancer. The group is led by a psychologist, Nancy Cooper, who is a breast cancer survivor as well. The group meets the 2nd and 4th Thursday of the month from 10-11:30 a.m. here at BCCR. Please call about joining!

The Sister Sak Project was started by a group of young survivors who wanted to be able to help someone else in their journey of breast cancer. This project provides young women diagnosed with breast cancer a network of support dedicated to their unique concerns.

continued on page 17…
Spotlight on Special People: Kathy Reilly

by Pat Battaglia

Chances are that if you come to any BCCR function, you’ll meet Kathy Reilly. Whether she is working on the Board of Directors at BCCR, greeting those who come to educational seminars, or (wo)manning our display table at one of the local summer festivals, Kathy is always willing to help whenever she can. She does so with a great deal of energy, warmth, and humor.

Kathy has been involved with the Breast Cancer Coalition for over two years and has a wealth of information and experience to share. A breast cancer survivor, she was already familiar with the devastation caused by cancer. As a teen, her mother was diagnosed with breast cancer and died twelve years later. In 1983, her four-year-old daughter, Tessa, was diagnosed with a rare form of leukemia. Kathy became involved with Cure Childhood Cancer and, through this group, found the knowledge and support she needed during this ordeal. Tragically, Tessa died months later. In tribute to her daughter’s memory, Kathy continued her involvement with Cure, serving on its Board of Directors from 1983-1988 and again in 1999-2002.

During the in-between years, Kathy began an interior design business. A creative and imaginative person, she found this outlet very satisfying and, to no one’s surprise, became a successful businesswoman. Still, cancer was a part of her life.

In 1991, she was an anonymous bone marrow donor for a child in Wisconsin. In 1993, her sister-in-law was diagnosed with breast cancer and died two years later. And it wasn’t long until cancer came into her life again, but this time it was Kathy herself who was affected. Diagnosed with thyroid cancer in 2003 at the same time her sister was diagnosed with breast cancer, Kathy refused to yield.

Because of the family history of breast cancer, Kathy was advised to have regular screenings every three months. She did this faithfully, but later in 2003 found a lump that hadn’t been there at her previous doctor’s visit. A CAT scan revealed Stage III breast cancer. Her diagnosis was followed by aggressive chemotherapy designed to shrink the tumor prior to surgery. Halfway through chemo, she began to feel the need for a support group. She was considering her surgical options and she wanted to talk to women who had been through it. While in her doctor’s waiting room, she struck up a conversation with a woman who was knitting a scarf (knitting is one of Kathy’s passions). The woman was a member of the BCCR community and advised Kathy to make contact.

At BCCR, Kathy found the support she needed, and was pleased to be part of this dynamic group of people. She became a member of the Board of Directors while still in treatment. She also became a Co-Chair of the Programs Committee. She has finished all her treatment, which included chemotherapy, surgery, and radiation, and now devotes her time to her family, her business, and BCCR.

Kathy has faced all that life has offered her and she is still smiling. She is truly an inspiration to all of us and is one of the vibrant people that make BCCR such a special place. ❧

Editor’s note: Just as this newsletter was going to press, Kathy received word that her youngest brother, John, had been diagnosed with a brain tumor. Though our hearts go out to Kathy and her family we are certain that, regardless of what the future holds, Kathy will guide them through the rough spots with the same courageous spirit that has brought her through her own.
Jennifer Griggs, MD
2005 Recipient of the Advocate’s Spirit Award

Jennifer Griggs, MD looked elegant and radiant at the Breast Cancer Coalition Gala on October 1st, accompanied by her family and friends. She had reason to be proud – she was being honored with the 2005 Advocate’s Spirit Award, nominated by a committee of peers and patients in the community.

The Rosenblum family and Sylvia Cappellino presented her with the award, in memory of Harriet Susskind-Rosenblum, a Breast Cancer Coalition founder for whom the award is named. Dr. Griggs’ acceptance speech was a reflection of the quality, caring physician she has become and it was easy to see why she is so well thought of by all. Clearly, she is willing to commit not only her expertise but also her compassion to her patients, giving them the caring they need. The presentation of this award was a memorable and moving part of the evening.
Goodbye Rare Chairs - A New Theme for the Breast Cancer Coalition’s Largest Yearly Fundraiser

After four successful years, the Rare Chair Affair is changing its theme. After much brainstorming, many wonderful ideas and a vote, the new theme for 2006 is “The ARTrageous Affair”! Details will follow in the weeks and months to come, but everyone at the BCCR is excited about the possibilities the new name holds. Marlene Dattillo and Paula return as co-chairs, virtually guaranteeing another successful event.

We are always in need of people for the sub-committees: Dinner Dance, Silent Auction, Artists, PR, Development and Registration/Checkout Committees. Be a part of this incredible event for an important cause!
The Pink Ribbon Run: The Women’s 5K Race and 2.5 Family Fitness Walk – Mother’s Day 2005

by Benita Aparo

On Mother’s Day, May 8, 2005, the Breast Cancer Coalition of Rochester held the fourth annual Pink Ribbon Run. In preparing for the event that had been plagued the first three years with weather as ominous as cancer itself, the committee covered all the bases. There were rain ponchos and hot coffee available for the volunteers and participants. Thankfully, we did not even think about using the ponchos and the coffee was a nice bonus.

For the second time, Ontario Beach Park provided a beautiful backdrop and there is ample space to grow at this location. The results this year were better than expected. Wegmans and Starbucks served as distribution points for registration forms and extensive media coverage was given by Channel 8, WARM 101.3 and WPXY. Participation in the race doubled (once again) from the previous year. There were almost 1,600 runners and walkers at Ontario Beach Park. A net of $61,000 was collected for breast cancer research and education. Special thanks to Event Director Deborah Bonsignore and Bix DiBaise, Race Director and the many sponsors, participants, pledgers and cheering spectators who made this event an overwhelming success. Plans are already underway for next year!

Would you like to lend a hand? Join us by calling (585) 473-8177.

3rd Annual “Teed-Off at Breast Cancer” Golf Tournament

The 3rd annual “Teed-Off at Breast Cancer Golf Tournament” was held July 25, 2004 at Shadow Lake Golf Club. We had a wonderful day, which wasn’t hurt at all by the most brilliant of blue skies! Through our generous golfers, sponsors, and gift and prize donors, we are delighted to report that we raised over $8,000.00. These monies contribute to our ability to support local families impacted by a breast cancer diagnosis. Our sincere thanks to Co-Chairs Lee Cordero and Sean Patton and all who made this happen and we look forward to seeing you again this year for another beautiful day on the greens!

1st Place Women – Donna Patton & Nancy Hoyt
1st Place Men – Toby Emmings, John Fanelli, Harry Mancuso, Bob Wetzel
1st Place Mixed – Greg Smith, Julie Shaw, Faye Casey, Robin Morris
Longest Drive, Women – Colleen Lippa; Longest Drive, Men – Steve Burke
Closest to the Pin, Women – Peg Bodine; Closest to the Pin, Men – Greg Smith

Save the date for the 4th annual “Teed-Off at Breast Cancer Golf Tournament”, July 31, 2006. Hope to see you then!
**Programs, continued from page 13**

The Sister Sak is a gift bag filled with comfort items, delivered by a young survivor who recently experienced similar challenges.

We are also in the process of starting a Young Survivor’s support group to bring young women together to discuss unique concerns they face with having breast cancer. This group gives women a wonderful opportunity to meet others who are going through a similar situation.

On Monday evenings, you can find 10 women stretched out on BCCR’s floor doing Gentle Yoga taught by Susan Meynadasy, a certified yoga instructor. Susan needed 8 hours of community service for recertification in the spring and after the first session, there was quite a demand for her to come back. The fall session began in October and ran for 5 weeks. The winter session will begin on Monday, January 9, 2006 and run for five weeks. The class starts at 6:30 p.m. and finishes at 7:45 p.m. Everyone is welcome to join; however the class is limited to 10 students. Please call to be added to the list.

Jewelry making, including bead making, is the latest program that we will be offering starting in January. Beading is relaxing and reduces stress. Marilynne Lipschutz of Studio 34 has generously offered her studio and the instructors have donated their time to teach a variety of classes. Some of the classes include making a polymer heart pin or a beaded bracelet. These are one session workshops, approximately two hours long with a maximum of 10 students per class.

The classes are project oriented and students will wear home a completed piece of jewelry.

If you would like to join yoga or take a jewelry class, please call 585-473-8177.

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**Women’s Health Partnership**

Do you know that every woman, even if she doesn’t have health insurance, can have a mammogram or other cancer screening? The Women’s Health Partnership provides this service to women in our area free of charge to women with little or no health insurance. Clinical breast exams, Pap smears, and pelvic exams are also available. They also provide colorectal cancer testing to both men and women over 50 who qualify.

This is a valuable resource to our community and can be life saving. The Women’s Health Partnership can be reached at 585-274-6978 for more information or online at www.urmc.edu/whp.
The 3rd Annual Terri Schmitt Legislative Reception took place on October 20, 2005 at BCCR. Terri Schmitt, who died of breast cancer in 2002, was a Mom first but also the former Supervisor of Rush, New York. She dedicated her life to serving the community, especially women and families coping with a diagnosis of breast cancer. This was an opportunity for elected officials serving the Greater Rochester region to gather and meet with the community of BCCR. Thank you to everyone who contributed their time to making this another successful event.

Friends Remembered …

Ginny Cocco
Patricia Corriveau
Donna Ernst
Betty French
Dena Gardner Green
Penny Lillis
Ann McMillan
Josephine Petrone
Martha Welker

(Photos unavailable)
Donations: ‘In Memory Of’

Rose Agosto
Ann Gammarrillo
Edith Alt
Alberta & Tom Roesser
Theresa Battaglini
Ruth & Bill Russell

Robert Bennett
Ninfa Bailey
John Blain
Anita & Richard Cross

Helene Bobbitt
Mary Louise Musler
Joan Boutheilier
Susan & Richard Ackerman
Nancy & Robb Adams
Audiology Dept. at BOCES #1
Holly Anderson
Marlene & Vincent Annarumma
Dorothy Bandemer
Marilyn & Dave Briggs
Gerard Button
Cathy & Dave Butry
Carol Casey
Sallie & John Della Villa
Elizabeth & Edward Elman
Judith Errishek
Linda & Kent Fellows
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Beverly & Charles Giarrizzo
Dolores Giarrizzo
Mary, David & Taylor Giarrizzo
Ruth Hanes
Janet & Robert Hilliard
Nancy Huffman
Joan Rowan Hugoboom
Stella & Henry Kazimor
Joan Keyser
Maxine Mittelstaft &
Robert Menendes
Midstate Vintage Stock Car Club
Don & Marty Nelson-Nasca
Sherrill & Ira Pogal
Patricia & David Pogue
Saulbert Rasmick
Deborah & Robert Rotunda
Kate & Randy Safford
Eileen Schindwein
Bette & Don Siegel
Marion Smith
Mr. & Mrs. John Trombly
Marion Tucker

Ruth Brandwein
Sandra & Paul Caccamise

Carmen Brongo
Maryann & Frank DeCarlo

Kitty Bryant
Linda & Roger Bryant
Mary-Ellen & Jack Gerke

Louise Bykowski
Rosanne & August Angelista
Paula & Jerry Ellis
Chris LeBeau
Terry Scorc

Mary Carroll
Mary Beth & Peter MacKenzie
Karen Cavilleri
Natalie Mitran

Ginny Cocco
Ardsley Social Studies Dept.
Amy, Liz, Craig, Carrie, Noel, Jason, Nedda & Dan
Val Barnard
Marie Barron
Minette Bebes
Lynn Brown
Sandra Caccamise
Marie & Tom Casarella
Marjorie Cavanaugh
Churchville-Chili Senior High School
Sunshine Club
Barb & Joe Cocco
Claire Cocco
Doris & James Cocco
Stephen Coit & Family
Kim Conzola
Judy Coolbaugh
Nina Fixler
Linda Galton
Karen & Richard Greenfield
Erika Laurie Hurvitz
Linda & Roger Henderberg
Dianne & Merrill Herrick
Alice & James HooperIII
Terry Joseph
Linda Kruchten
Ellen Lamb
Mary Ann & Teri Lawson
Michele & Joseph Lennon
Anne Longo
Susan & Saul Marsh
Louise McGee
Susan Meck
Betty Miller
Nazareth College Staff Club
Megan Neumann
Susan & Colin Norberg
Susan & Richard Rizzo
Victoria & Ro Romano
St. Rita’s Parish Receptionists
School of the Arts Sunshine Club
Julie & Ron Schrader
Kathy Stafford
Shirley & John Thomson
Ray Tiede
Karen & David Tubolino
Debbie Voorheis
Cindy Ware
Joanne White
Debbie & Bill Work

Sandy Cohen
Rhonda Rossman
Judith Cole

Amy Kocher
Jane Comins
Eileen & Kenneth Carlsen
Karen Coates
Mary, John & Andrew Conlon
David Corbin
Patricia Davis
Mike Franchot
Robert Giguere
Julie Halliburton & Alex Bolduc
Patricia & Thomas Harrison
Hemlock United Methodist Church
ITT Industries, Rochester
Linda & Ken Madigan
Gay & Bob Maney
Andrea & Gerald Mercandetti
Theresa Mitran
Susan & Wayne Niles
Deborah & Richard Sanza
Kathy & Scott Sutherland

Patricia Corriveau
Norm Acunis
Becky, Carl & Luke Adams
Kathy & Brad Adams
Nancy & Wayne Adams
Catherine & John Alessi
Margaret Anderson
Margaret & Frank Bartolotti
Mr. & Mrs. Bruce Barton
Kathleen Bayko
Carol & Richard Beaulieu
Susan Brightman
Donna Campbell
Marilyn & Bob Carney
Nancy & Peter Chesterton
Laurie & Richard Christman
Kay Closen
Corland Line Company
Janice Conrad
Carol & Bruce Coon
Mr. & Mrs. William Coons
Diane, Pierre & Kathleen
Corriveau
Paul Corriveau
Gail & Robert Crandall
Kate & Bob Crowley
Janet & Gary DeBurgomaster
Jan Tony DeChario
Ann & William Delaney
Rita & Andrew Demnison
Patricia & James DePinto
Sandi DeWispelaere
Karen & Nathan Dick
Rosemary Dow
Helen Duffy
Karen Duffy-Durnin
Mary & James Duffy
Dina & Neil Dugan
Elliott Family
Bonnie & Ronald Epner
Pamela Ferguson
Pamela Freeman
Marie & Christopher Fortini
Bunny Fox
Kathy & Ray Garbach
Mary Ann Garrett
Nancy Gell
Lauren Giardina, Pilu Patel,
Scott Brimmer, Michelle Morris,
Nancy Hammel, Quyen Luu,
Mark Levy, Jennifer Thomas,
Scott Feudale
Juliette & Wayne Goodwin
Mary Graham
Arlyn Grossman
Lisa Harrison & the Euchre Club
Beverly Hart
Jacqueline & John Harten
Mr. & Mrs. John Hayes
Leslie & Helge Heen
K.E. Hickey
Susan & Howard Ikin
Mary Ann & Charles Jarman
Donna & Gus Kahuati
Barbara & Francis Lamanna
Sue Lawrence
Anne & Thomas LeBlanc
Pam Lisiewicz
MIE Engineering
Diane & Kent Macafee
Tracy & John Mahoney
Colleen & James Marino
Barbara & Richard McMullen
Meadows Office Supply
Adrian Melissinos
Mr. & Mrs. Joseph Mercier
Hilda JoAnne Milham
Kathleen Muszak
Janet Nasser
NYS Attorney General Syracuse
Regional Office
Mr. & Mrs. David Norton
Suzanne O’Brien
Psula & Paul O’Connell
Joanna Olmsted
Patricia & Alfred Padeletti
William Passalacqua
Eva Perkins
Karyn Pfugler
Diane Pickersgill
Nancy Pegelow
Roberta Pilato
Kay Place
Craig Pratt
Eileen Pullara
Roberta & Andrew Ricchietto
Dana Rittenhouse
Janet & Carlos Jimenez Rueda
Gloria & Donald Sauer
Robert Schlaub
Kelly & Michael Scott
Sedgwick/Hurbson Business Interiors
Carol Serling
Jean Simeone
Rita & Kenneth Simolo
Flo Sippel
Jean & Paul Slattery
Claire Smolenski
Barbara Stam
Linda & Tom Stasmore
Jean & Richard Swartz
Beverly & Charles Sweeney
Paul Tankel
Diana & Ray Taylor
Jeananne Thomas
Deb Thornton
Sheree Toth
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Mr. & Mrs. William Torpey
Margaret & Jack Tribble
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U of R Dept. of Modern Languages & Cultures
U of R ORPA Office
Carol & George Vorhauer
Marge Waebner
Traci Weber
Mr. & Mrs. Philip Wehrheim
Marian Welker
Ron Wheeler Family
Mary Kay & Larry Winter
Dorothy & Richard Young
Cindy L. Dertinger
Kathy & John Blain
Jon Dertinger
Karen Gramo
Patricia & Edwin Gramo
Kimberley & Andrew Gardner
Erik Rhodes
Kristin & Jody Stoddard
Linda & Patrick Walsh
Liz Desenberg
Mary Maggio
Louise Dupre
Holly Anderson
Mary Merrit
Erin McCollough
Colleen Finn
Madeline Agostinelli
Megan Alekson
Barnard Crossing Friends
Joan & Doug Barstow
Sandy & Colin Black
Shirley Boyd
Ann Carter
Donald Christensen
Judith & Thomas Cole
Dawn & Roger Covey
Mary Anne & Chet Czarniak
Cindy & Gordon Davies
Sandara & Gary Distefano
Nancy Dhurjaty
Nancy & Frank DiOrio
Teri & Jeff Douglas
Eastman Kodak Photo Lab
Eastman Kodak-TKM Group
Mr. & Mrs. Richard Epps
Michael Finn
Mary Friscia
Marty Graen & family
Violet Herberger
Janet Hewitt
Janice & Hank Ippolito
Carol & Douglas Lennon
Jodi & Ron Marasco
Dale Martin
Sharon & Paul Miller
Cindy & Mark Minunni
Patricia Molisani
Kathy Mortenson
Ann Moscicki
Marcia Muller
Nancy & Thomas Olney
Marie Personte
PRH Surgical Physician Assistants
Joyce & Mark Padolesi
Joanne & Gary Petroske
Kathy Phillips
Marie Piccarreto
Cynthia & Mark Quadrini
Linda & Michael Quinn
Linda Reed
Dorothy & Robert Romanet
Brenda Ross
Gretchen & Todd Schicker
Gayle Schneider
Janet & Edward Schwartz
Peggie & Jon Sebolt
Nancy Sherman
Kenneth Steudler
Carol Stilwell
Helen Stone
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Patricia & Michael Trout
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Jim & Linda Wackerow
Meg & Kevin Wager
Jim Wilkin
Anita Fiorentino
Dolores & George Attenboro
Mary Ann & Phillip Basche
Carolyn & Paul Brescia
Barbara & James Brownlee
Kristine & Robert Bruneau
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Mary Congdon
Mr. & Mrs. Robert DeBell
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Patricia DeYager
Geraldine & Joseph DiNoto
Rita & Thomas Doerr
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Martylou & Bernard Every
Evelyn & Carlotta Garufo
Carol & Richard Haewel
Barbara Herman
Alayne & Lewis Hess
Jennifer Incardona
Lois & Nelson Kendrick
Connie & Vincent Mastro Simone
McEvily Family
Tracy Mead
Allyson Merico
Metro Fitness Gym
Gloria & Bob Misturak
Georgianna & Robert Mayer
The New Case Management Team:
Carrie Walton, Kathy Argento,
Jennifer Suwaze, Sandy
Connor, Jennifer Japon, Teale
Inman, Suzanne Nikitin, Ian
Brown, Sarah Ridder, Elizabeth
Sears, Candace Daly, Lorraine
Drake, Josh Cartwright, Paul
Sikorski, Bertha Livadas,
Nicole Streb, Deborah Laurin,
Christina Drumm, Jennifer
Pappert, Kelly Trottier, Krista
Colafufo and David Fox

The New Case Management Team:
Kelly Susa, Paula Preece,
Meghan Reed, Chris D’Amico
Julie Hart, Meagan Villa
Barbara Palmeri
Neal Passarell
Jenny Pecora
Patricia & Lance Pfluke
Gabriella & John Piampiano
Dorothy & Jack Pitlick
Kim & Scott Pugliese
Linda Sailer
Marilyn Santiago
Sandra & Dick Schaefer
Sentry Group, Human Resources
Helen & Norman Steinberg
Lillian & John Yeager
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Laurie Woerner
Donna Wrobels

Ellen Flynn
Holly Anderson
Phyllis Connelly

Traci Foster
Denise & Michael Adams
Theodore & Deborah Alvarado
American Legion Post 1182
Janice & Chris Barbara
Mary & Larry Barber
Seda Badalian
Gerard Button, Midstate
Vintage Stock Car Club
Elizabeth & David Coene
Judith & Robert Coene
Patricia Corriuve

Cheryl Dony
Margorie & Frieder Enslin
Susan & Michael Eyre
Barb & Charlie Fedeli
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Kedzie Family
Jill Gervace
Hortense Gillespie
Kim Guelli
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Marilyn Keenan
Tracey & David Kempsell
Rose & Bill Kleisle
Brian Lipycz
Ellen & Daniel Maloney
Jill Mountain & David Baker
Pine Brook PTSA
Joseph Pozek
Raisa Reitter
Janet Santacesaria
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Karen Schreiber
Mary Jane & Bill Sheradin
Mary & Lou Sicilano
Valerie & Vince Siciliano
Donna & Jim Zymanski

Dena Green
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Dottie Katsafouros
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Betty Lohr
Cathryn Miller
Lillian “Dolly” Grifo
Ellen Kriger
Pat Haralambides
Elda O’Brien
Bonnie Ursinou
Wendy Klafehn
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Betsy Ann Balzano
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Noreen & Jerry Carr
Mildred & Charles Clark
Phyllis Connelly
June Werner Geier
Hannelore & William Heyen
Shirley & George Killian
Kristi & Mathel Koss
Dennis Lysy
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Mary Neary
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Susan & Gary Weisensel
Vincent Lucarelle
Anthony DiPonzio
Susan & Paul Russello
Janet Ann MacLeod
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Bonnie Drum Maher
Holly Anderson
Helen & Irving Brooks
Scott Brown
Nancy Carrabba
Geraldine & Joseph Drum
Arlene & Richard Kearns
Heather & Tim Lewis
Zine Merlin
Cindy & Laverne Morton
Pam & Art Pseidl
Marcy & Roger Reynolds
Brenda & Dan Ross
Deborah Ullennbruch

Carmella Majka
Barbara LaMatta
Angela McCormick
Inez & Paul Law
Monica McCoy
Janet Allardice
Jean & Anthony De Petres
Karen Feniczia
Mr. & Mrs. R. Gentile
Nan Holahan
Rosemarie Joy
Erika & Joe Kirwin
Selma & Julius Kitzman
Long Pond Auto Body, Inc
Arthur McCoy
Latte & Horis Sommer
Karen & Don Selkowitz
Laureen Sortino
Charlotte & Joseph Wahl
Virginia Zavaglia
June Millington
Mary Maggio

Nancy Moll
Jo LaMar

Bessie Muscatella
Mrs. Francis DiPonzio
Arlene Nevins
Ellen Yaknin & Cathy Mazzota
Karen O’Connor
Charles Bollinger
Mary Ellen Bell Parks
Nancy & Dave Robbins
Carmen Pastore
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# Upcoming Events & Programs

## 2006

### January
- 6: Brown Bag Friday
- 9: Gentle Yoga
- 12: Advanced Breast Cancer Support Group
- 13: Brown Bag Friday
- 16: Gentle Yoga
- 19: BCCR Ball 2006 Kick-Off Meeting
- 20: Brown Bag Friday
- 23: Gentle Yoga
- 26: Advanced Breast Cancer Support Group
- 27: Brown Bag Friday
- 30: Gentle Yoga

### February
- 3: Brown Bag Friday
- 6: Gentle Yoga
- 9: Advanced Breast Cancer Support Group
- 10: Brown Bag Friday
- 13: Gentle Yoga
- 17: Brown Bag Yoga
- 22: Evening Seminar – “Alternatives to Pesticides: Creating a Safer and Healthier Environment”
- 23: Advanced Breast Cancer Support Group
- 24: Brown Bag Friday

### March
- 3: Brown Bag Friday
- 9: Advanced Breast Cancer Support Group
- 10: Brown Bag Friday
- 17: Brown Bag Friday
- 22: Monthly Evening Seminar
  - “Her-2/Neu and Herceptin: What it All Means”
- 23: Advanced Breast Cancer Support Group
- 24: Brown Bag Friday
- 31: Brown Bag Friday

*All dates are subject to change. Please call the Breast Cancer Coalition of Rochester to check current scheduling. As the year progresses, many additions to the calendar are expected.*
Take Action!

Become a Supporter of the Breast Cancer Coalition of Rochester by making a donation today!

Your donation will ensure that you will receive a subscription and invitation to all general meetings, educational forums, and special events. Additionally, you will help support our goal of creating an active voice in the Greater Rochester Region in the fight against breast cancer through advocacy, education, support and research.

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(585) 473-8177
www.bccr.org

Shop for BCCR Merchandise

We have many lovely things that can be enjoyed and benefit the Breast Cancer Coalition. What could be better? Check our website for items available, call, or visit us at 840 University Avenue, Rochester, NY (585-473-8177)

Little Lives Touched 2006 Calendar – a beautiful calendar of Jacqueline Freitas’ photos of children in a CD sized case - $12

Pink Jelly Bracelet – all the rage! - $2

Pink Bandanna – so versatile, 100% cotton - $3

Pink Ribbon Magnet Tins - $5

Bracelet of Hope – Handmade glass & sterling bracelet in a gift bag - $20

Greeting Cards – Designed by a local artist for every occasion - $3.75 each

Comfort Hearts – These beautiful pewter hearts offer comfort to many. - $10

Bookmarks –Made by local artists Kim Kircher & Dorothea Hillis. Available in gold or silver finishes. $5 small, $10 large

Scarf Initiative – we always have a large assortment, handmade by artisans from all over the world. Call us for help in picking one out! $25

Wear one of our new boxing glove pins to show you are part of the fight against breast cancer! In pink or brown. $3

Small canvas bags spread the message “Show you Care, Be Aware”. 8”x8” $3.50
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We are listed in the “Organizations Not Subject to United Way’s Review” section of the 2004 United Way Donor Designation Form.

Please choose Choice #4 on your United Way form.

Our organizations non-profit identification number is 2334.

Our organization can only continue to do our work with your generous support. We are, at present, the only full scope organization focused specifically on Breast Cancer in the Greater Rochester Region. When you donate to our organization, 100% of the donation is focused on Breast Cancer issues and 100% of your donation stays in the Rochester area. Each dollar contributed is 100% appreciated by those of us working towards the eradication of Breast Cancer.

Donations are tax-deductible to the extent allowed by law.

Voices of the Ribbon is published quarterly by the Breast Cancer Coalition of Rochester.

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