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Spring 2010

Breast Cancer Family Foundation®

President's Corner

Happy Spring!

Spring is one of my favorite seasons running closely with Autumn. I love Spring for its vibrancy and freshness, its sense of hope of new life and love. This could not be truer for the Breast Cancer Family Foundation, as we have recently added new personnel and board members to take our organization to new heights.

Welcome to our new board members

Sandra Beyer, Green Bay Area School District
Cheri Feser, Northeast Wisconsin Technical College
Susan Van Asten, United HealthCare

I would also like to express my deepest appreciation to board members: Ginger Micksch and Nick Nesvacil, who recently left the board after fulfilling their terms. Their contributions have been priceless to BCFF and we are grateful for their passion and leadership over the years.

Adding new staff members

Our educational program is in such high demand, that we have recently added new staff members and we are excited to introduce you to the new faces at BCFF. This is a significant milestone for us. Now we are able to further expand our fundraising and educational programs throughout Northeastern Wisconsin.

It goes without saying these are uncertain times, but with your help over the past eleven years, we have been able to continue to grow, and expand our programs. Thank you for your continued support, and I hope to see you at one of our upcoming events.

Kelly



A Message from our Founder,

Kris Labutzke



As Jody and I prepare to start the process of moving on to the next phase of our lives I often get the question, "did your bout with cancer change your life plans?" You see we are in the process of building our "retirement" home in Green Valley, Arizona this summer. Green Valley fits our lifestyle of: golf, walk, golf, tennis, golf, pickle ball, golf, swim, golf, hike and did I mention GOLF.....

Back to the question, I really do not know the answer. Of course, for a short time, it did change things as I went through surgeries, chemo and radiation. But we knew life would get back to normal once treatment was done and it did. Then, as many of you know, I lost my oldest sister to breast cancer and my only niece to kidney cancer. Now those are truly life changing experiences. Not experiences we want to go through but it happens to all of us at some time, in some way. Then you look around and say, what do I want the future to be? Only I can make that happen so time to get on with it. So I guess to answer the question, my cancer really didn't change our plans. What happens to family and friends has had a much greater emphasis on my own life than my own experiences.

As I said, Jody and I are just starting the next phase. We eventually want to winter in Green Valley but still enjoy the spring, summer and fall that Wisconsin offers. We love that part of the year. Winter, not so much! The Green Valley winters will have to wait for a few years before it can become reality but it is something to look forward to. Besides, right now my friends are too tough on me. I need to heal from surgery from my torn meniscus that I suffered the last time I played pickle ball with my "competitive" buddies. I probably should stick with golf. I have never really had an injury in that sport unless of course you count the time Jody hit a line drive right into my leg. Oh well, that is another story.

Until next time, God bless

Kris



Adding New Staff Members



Please join us in welcoming Laurie Cooney, Director of Communication and Community Education. Laurie joined the BCFF in October of 2009. Laurie is an enthusiastic person that has a passion for helping others in the community. Prior to joining the BCFF Laurie volunteered as a survivor speaker in our school presentations. Laurie has exceptional communication and leadership skills and an extensive background in healthcare sales, marketing and project management. We are happy that Laurie has joined our organization and know she will play a crucial role in advancing our mission in the community.

You will often find Laurie in classrooms around the area, educating our youth about cancer awareness: early detection and prevention strategies along with healthy lifestyle behaviors. This year we are excited to share that we surpassed our goal by reaching over 5000 students in our educational presentations. We have reached 1200 more students compared to last year and are excited to see what next year will bring. Please call us to schedule an educational presentation at your school, business, church or other community organizations. When Laurie is not in the classroom she is out in the community promoting awareness of BCFF events such as the Titledown Bike Tour and the Pink Pumpkin Walk.

A New Role at the BCFF

As you can see the BCFF is rapidly spreading its mission throughout the community and because of this wonderful demand we are pleased to announce a new role at the BCFF. Melissa Schampers joins the BCFF as the new Administrative Coordinator. Melissa has experience in non-profit organization work, volunteer work and administrative duties.



Melissa is looking forward to bringing her non-profit experience to the BCFF to help increase its fundraising capabilities and promote the organization within the community.

Cancer survivor day is **Sunday June 6, 2010**. Celebrate the survivors in your life and remind the women in your life about the importance of self-exams and mammograms!



The Great Debate Regarding Mammograms

Many of us have heard about the controversy regarding mammograms and their validity in saving lives. The BCFF continues to support the recommendations made by the American Cancer Society. The ACS advocates that mammograms should begin at age 40 and that having mammograms at that age will continue to save lives and help promote early detection.

The bottom line is that the sooner cancer can be detected the better. Mammograms often times detect cancer often before patients are able to feel them during self-exams.

The BCFF continues to advocate for preventive screenings beginning at age 40 and younger for those with a history of breast cancer in their family.

For further information regarding this issue you can visit www.cancer.org.

Upcoming Events to Remember:

Titletown Bike Tour	Sunday 07/18/10
Fire Dept Pink Boot	Saturday 09/25/10
Pink Pumpkin Walk	Saturday 10/02/10



This year we are celebrating Titletown's 10th anniversary! Join us and enjoy the beautiful scenic tour through Northeast Wisconsin. Families and bike enthusiasts will be treated to gently rolling hills, numerous rest stops, treats, family activities and entertainment. The Titletown bike tour provides a healthy and fun family activity while raising funds to benefit the BCFF. Visit www.titletownbiketour.com for registration information. We look forward to seeing you there! **Thank you to Sir Speedy for their donation of printing services. **