Advocates Review

Making a difference in the life of a patient!

# **Summer 2018**

# The Advocates for UPSTATE MEDICAL UNIVERSITY

#### President

Judy Carr

#### VP Service

Maryann Newman Jean Pirozzi

VP Membership Marketing

Jane Forstadt

**VP Fund Development** 

### Donna Breen

VP Contracts

Theresa Devennie Lisa Schiller

#### Treasurer

Tracy Ryder

### Secretary

Karen Goldman

### **Board Members**

Kim Babcock Marty Cuddy Rosemary Fenneman Alicia Green Carolyn Hoskins-Beach Bertha Jacobs Dawn Janis Barbara LaBarge Bonnie McCabe Edward Priest Sharon Putney Libby Rubenstein

### Director Volunteer Services Kristin Bruce Administrative Coordinator Jonathan Adler

# 2017-18 ANNUAL REPORTS

### **Presidents Report**

Summer is a time for looking back at accomplishments and celebrating them. I love the timing of our Annual Meeting and Luncheon because I think it is the perfect occasion to do that. But, for me, this Summer will be used to plan and think of "moving forward" as The Advocates prepare for another year of fundraising and giving back to Upstate Medical University.

At the luncheon in May, we honored Susan York who has been our Manager for Business and Administration for eight years. Susan is retiring from full time employment and begin-



ning a new chapter of life. She will be irreplaceable for those of us who have worked closely with her. But I am excited to welcome Jonathan Adler who started full time with the Advocates on June 4<sup>th</sup>. Jonathan brings a strong background in work with local not-for-profits. I look forward to working with him through the transition, discovering his gifts and putting them to work for The Advocates. Change can be difficult, but Jonathan is fortunate to have inherited an efficient and wellorganized structure thanks to Susan's skills. I know I speak for the entire organization when I write we are grateful beyond measure to them both. We will bring you a more in depth look at Jonathan in our next issue.

Susan & Cal York

The luncheon was the opportunity to honor our Advocate of the Year, Debbie Bogan.

Debbie joined the Advocates when Community Hospital became a part of the Upstate system. She continues to volunteer at Community as a dispatcher and greeter at the East lobby desk and has accumulated over 2000 hours of service. As an Advocate, she serves on the Grants committee, is an active participant on the Community Campus committee serving as co-secretary, volunteers at Blood Drives, and chairs the Scholarship committee. Congratulations Debbie and thank you for all you do for The Advocates and The Hospital!!!



Judy Carr & Debbie Bogan

Our contracts continue to flourish, and I cannot thank them enough for their efforts. Because of them, we have the

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resources to give back to the hospital in many ways but especially through grants. We support so many worthy "small" projects and are delighted to do so.

In early August, The Executive Committee will meet to discuss the future. There are questions to be answered and new relationships to be developed as we move forward with the ever-changing administration. But I am confident that The Advocates will continue to grow in their role as supporter of the Hospital and welcome new ways to do that.

So with anticipation, we "move forward" and I am honored to act as President for another year. Thanks for your support and commitment.

Judy Carr, President



### SAVE THE DATES \* \* SAVE THE DATES \* \* Blood Drive – Downtown Campus

Thursday, July 19 – 7:30 am – 7 pm Friday, July 20 – 7 am – 1 pm Blood Drive – Community Campus Monday, July 30 – 12 pm – 6 pm Tuesday, July 31 – 7 am – 1 pm 21st Annual Mystery, Malt & Merlot Spring 2019, Date & Location to be announced soon

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## THE ANNUAL REPORTS



### Treasurer—Tracy Ryder

The Advocates have had a solid 2017-2018 financial year. With forecasted strong contract performance and a successful Mystery, Malt & Merlot fundraiser, the financials are only expected to improve. Our wonderful vendors include: Espress Oasis, Lori's gift shop, Dazzle Gifts on the Hill, American Food & Vending, Mom 365 Photos, Telehealth TV's and Café Kabul.

The 20<sup>th</sup> Annual Mystery, Malt & Merlot was a great success at the Marriott Syracuse Downtown. This year's recipient is the Adolescent Psychiatry Unit at Upstate.

Total scholarships in the amount of \$23.2k were awarded to students, volunteers and staff from both campuses in the pursuit of continuing education in a medical field.

Grants totaling \$96k were awarded to 47 recipients for the 2017-2018 fiscal year. A few of the recipients were: Spiritual Care, Upstate Cancer Center, Pediatrics, Volunteer Services and Psychiatry.

A special thanks to the Finance, Executive, Grant and Scholarship Committees for helping me through this second year in office. I would not be able to have done it without everyone's help – especially Susan York who does an amazing job and will be missed!!

#### VP- Fund Development- Donna Breen

The Advocates continue to support fund raising opportunities to benefit areas of special needs in our hospital. Throughout the year we encourage the sale of personalized pencils, done by Bonnie McCabe. We also participated in selling \$5 coupons for Delta Sonic Car Wash. In a 2-for \$5 deal we sold their 200 coupons for \$500 profit-The recipients of these monies has yet to be determined.

Mystery, Malt & Merlot was co-chaired by Karen Goldman & Barbara Labarge. We are grateful to all committee members who have devoted their time and talents for these endeavors. As always, we are looking for new members to join us in these worthwhile efforts.

#### VPs- Service Committee- Jean Pirozzi & Maryann Newman

The Service Committee for 2017-2018 has been busy again this year with many opportunities to work at both Community and Downtown Campuses.

Beautification of the Community Campus is also a part of the Service Committee. Advocates and Volunteers decorate the campus for holidays and by planting flowers in the Spring. Many compliments from staff and visitors were received. Blood Drives held four times a year at both campuses were successful in meeting the donation goals set by the American Red Cross. Davis Ulmer Sprinkle, Upstate Bone & Joint and the Medical Students of Upstate also sponsor Blood Drives. Their blood donations add to the Advocates numbers and benefit Upstate Medical University. Reaching the donation goals helps Upstate reduce costs of processing blood products for patient care.

Advocates were able to assist Spiritual Care of the Downtown Campus at their Annual Memorial Service in November.

December was busy celebrating the holidays with The Snowflake Central wrapping station in the Golisano Children's Hospital. The wrapping station is staffed by Advocates and Volunteers to wrap gifts for families of hospitalized children.

At each Campus "themed dinners" complete with entertainment were provided for a few hospital units. A fun time was had by patients and families.

I would like to thank all The Advocates, Volunteers and especially Committee members for their commitment to make all activities at both campuses so successful.

### VP– Contracts– Theresa Devennie & Lisa Schiller

The Advocates are blessed with so many things, good members, a hard working Board and the time to dedicate to Upstate Medical University.

This year, we had the good fortune to see a new Television contract go into place. Over 600 new 32"Samsung SMART TVs with new pillow speakers were installed across the Upstate Campus in our patient rooms. They are rentable for the new lower price of \$7.00 per day. These TVs are the life line to Patients as the are recovering. We Thank Telehealth and all the employees at both Campuses for making this a smooth transition.

This year we also welcomed Dazzle's Gifts on the Hill to their new location in the Community Campus. They opened mid summer last year creating a beautiful gift shop that is inviting and offering any-thing you may need as a patient or a visitor including some grab and go food products, flowers and wonderful gift items. They have proven to be a great addition.

The Advocates would like to thank all the staff of EspressOasis, Lori's Gifts, Café Kubal, American Food & Vending, Dazzle and TeleHealth for partnering with us and providing such a wonderful service for Hospital patients, staff and guests.

Monies from these contracts are used by The Advocates to give back to the hospital in forms of Grants, Scholarships, Special Projects fulfilling our mission to better serve patients and staff.

#### VP- Membership & Marketing- Jane Forstadt

As another year ends for The Advocates, it's always a perfect time to say THANK YOU to all our dedicated Board members and to the general membership of The Advocates. We now have 114 members, of which 41 are lifetime members and are grateful to each one for their continued support.

We will once again have a drawing for two free M3 tickets with a new or renewed membership (if the membership is paid for by January 2019). The winners of this year's M3 tickets were Bob and Diane Virnoche.

Our successful May 2018 Annual Meeting and Luncheon was attended by 68 guests who paid a reduced price to attend. We are hopeful that this year's attendance will surpass those numbers. Special recognition was given to Susan York, Manager for Business and Administration, who is retiring after 8 years. We wish her all the best in her well-deserved retirement! Robert J. Corona, Interim Chief Executive Officer, spoke at the luncheon about his vision for Upstate as well as giving an update on what is happening at Upstate. We collected an assortment of word search and puzzle books, playing cards and adult coloring books for adult inpatients.

New board members were welcomed at our Orientation meeting held at the Genesee Grande in August 2017.

Last fall we sponsored an amazing evening of illusion presented by Magic Beyond Imagination. We started with a catered dinner by Dinosaur BBQ in a room at the New Academic Building then proceeded next door for an evening of magic and illusion by close up Magicians Garrett Thomas, Joe Maxwell and Kozmo, one of the top street performers in the world. We are grateful to these magicians for also presenting a free show to the inpatients at Golisano Children's Hospital prior to our show

In December, three of our Board members created a gorgeous wreath that was displayed at the 32<sup>nd</sup> Festival of Trees, in support of the Everson Museum of Art in Syracuse. The theme was "Circle of Giving" based on our ongoing dedication to the Upstate Medical University Family.

Recently, we have been revising The Advocates membership brochure, hoping to bring more attention to The Advocates, make people aware of who we are and what we do and encourage people to become new members.



Seale. We cannot thank them enough for their years of service and dedication to The Advocates.

At the same time we are delighted to welcome new Board of Directors members: **Carolyn Hoskins-Beach, Dawn Janis and Doretta Settineri Royer.** 



Barb LaBarge & Karen Goldman present check to Sharon Klaiber



Susan York honored by Advocates Board



Guest speaker, Dr. Robert Corona, Interim CEO

# MURDER, MYSTERY & MERLOT AT THE MARRIOTT DOWNTOWN SYRACUSE

It's hard to believe that this year was our 20th event. A lot of work, but a lot of fun as well as attendees worked on solving the mystery and then Syracuse's own Bruce Coville spun his



tale of intrigue leading to murder. Thanks to Rob Scott for serving as Emcee and to John McCabe, our Auctioneer. And, of course, many thanks to event Co-Chairs Karen Goldman and Barb LaBarge and all the Advocates who worked so hard and so long to make this our most successful event to date.



### PARTING WORDS FROM SUSAN

THANK YOU!

A big thank you for attending The Advocates Annual Meeting & Luncheon on May 8 to help celebrate my retirement. And thank you for all your kind words. I especially enjoyed all of the comments by the Executive Committee. I didn't realize I had such an impact on so many things – particularly the proper way to place address labels on envelopes! The past 8 ½ years have been an incredible experience for me – participating in all the wonderful things The Advocates do for the Hospital and getting to know all the incredible people that volunteer. I hope our paths will cross in the future. Thank you!

### AND A WELCOMING WORD FROM JONATHAN

I look forward to working with all of you in the coming year and helping this incredible organization succeed, thrive and grow. Please always feel free to share your thoughts and ideas with me. It has been such a pleasure to have the opportunity to learn the ropes from Susan these past few weeks. I know it will help smooth the transition and I wish



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