# Advocates Review

Making a difference in the life of a patient!

#### Spring 2017

# The Advocates for UPSTATE MEDICAL UNIVERSITY

#### President Judy Carr

VP Fund Development Donna Breen

VP Membership & Marketing Jane Forstadt

**VP Service** Jean Pirozzi

#### **VP Contracts** Theresa Devennie Lisa Schiller

**Treasurer** Tracy Ryder

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Mgr. for Business & Administration Susan E. York

Director Volunteer Services Kristin Bruce



#### **President's Report**

Of course the big news at this time in The Advocates year is the preparation for our signature fundraiser Mystery Malt & Merlot. You will read about that other places in this newsletter. But just to fill you in on a few other things that are keeping The Advocates busy....

While our member volunteers are the heartbeat of The Advocates, our contracts are the lifeline that keeps the organization flourishing and expanding. We are delighted to announce several new opportunities that will not only contribute to The Advocates fiscally but will enhance the services provided at both campuses.

The Gift Shop at Community will reopen in June and will be renamed Dazzle Gifts on the Hill. Lois Ross, the proprietor of the Dazzle Cancer Center Boutique, has agreed to run the shop and will bring her years of merchandising gifts as well as her terrific management team with her. They will feature unique clothing, jewelry and gifts as well as grab and go foods and beverages. Lois is excited about the location and meeting the needs of the Community!

Vending machines has recently been introduced in the new academic building on campus and that contract with *American Food and Vending* will be held by The Advocates. Plans are unrolling for a café in that building are well and we will be updating you on that soon! Both are terrific opportunities for The Advocates!

Our Annual Meeting and Luncheon will be held on May 9<sup>th</sup> at the Genesee Grande. We are delighted to honor Dr. John McCabe at that occasion. Dr. McCabe has been the greatest advocate for The Advocates over the years and we look forward to recognizing his involvement with the organization as well as wishing him well in retirement. It will be a "do not miss" occasion! Look for your invitation in mid-April or contact Susan York.

We are so proud to be members of the Upstate team and are grateful to all who work with us and enable us to give back to the Hospital. Now if Spring would just show up..... Judy Carr, President

#### \* \* SAVE THE DATES \* \* SAVE THE DATES \* \*



Blood Drive – Downtown Campus Thursday, April 13 - 8 am – 5 pm

Friday, April 14 – 7 am – 1 pm

Blood Drive – Community Campus Tuesday, May 2 – 12 pm – 6 pm Wednesday, May 3 - 7 am – 1 pm

19th Annual Mystery Malt & Merlot Friday April 7th, Marriott Syracuse Downtown

Tuesday, May 9, 2017 – Annual Meeting & Luncheon Genesee Grand Hotel



#### **SPRING 2017**

#### **The Vice Presidents Reports**



#### FUND DEVELOPMENT 19th MYSTERY, MALT & MERLOT

Our dedicated M3 planning committee has been busy these past months, and we are putting the final touches on what should be a wonderful fundraising event in support of the new **Patient Guest Service Center** for Upstate Hospital's Downtown Campus. You should have received your official invitation and hopefully have marked it on your calendars. You can make reservations on-line at <u>www.upstate.edu/advocates</u>. Join us for a fun evening, a scrumptious dinner and live and silent auctions at the new Marriott Syracuse Downtown Grand Ball Room on April 7<sup>th</sup> at 6:00 PM. We so appreciate your support!

#### Karen Goldman, Chair M3

#### **COMMUNITY CAMPUS**

We held our fourth meeting of the year on March 8th. It was determined at that time that the Community Campus Committee would continue for the next year. Proposed meetings dates were set at June 14, August 9, November 8; March 7, 2018.

Ken Redmore, Associate Administrator of Facilities & Support Services, spoke to us on the plans for the new maternity floor and the plans to develop the Community Campus grounds with landscaping and signage improvements. It was decided that our beautification committee will continue the practice of planting spring flowers, annuals or perennials.

Our next Red Cross Blood drive at Community Campus will be Tuesday, May 2nd and Wed. May 3rd. Also on May 2nd, we will participate in the annual Volunteer Appreciation Luncheon at Doubletree. This will recognize all the Upstate volunteers and Advocates for their contributions to both campuses.

In May we will again be applying to participate in Macy's Shop-for-a-Cause fundraiser. The profits from selling passes for the August Macy's event will once more benefit an area of Golisano Childrens' Hospital. Passes should be available at the Advocates' Annual

Meeting and Luncheon May 9th.

We would welcome any Advocate to join our Committee. Please contact Susan York for information on how to join!

# Donna Breen, Chair Community Committee & VP Fund Development

#### SERVICE

The Service Committee helps recruit volunteers for many projects at both the Downtown and Community Campuses, such as Vascular screening, PM&R Dinners, Snowflake Central, and decorating at holiday time. Spring will be here soon and it will be time to do the planting of flowers at the Community Campus which brings many positive compliments from patients and visitors.

The four Blood Drives per year (Winter, Spring, Summer & Fall) at each campus are our major projects. The next Downtown Campus blood drive is April 13th & 14th. The next blood drive at Community Campus is May 2nd & May 3rd. Double Red Donation is done at the Community Campus blood drive. Double Red Donation is similar to a whole blood donation, except a special machine is used to allow a donor to safely donate two units of red blood cells during one donation while returning the plasma and platelets to donor. The Red Cross tests all donor's hemoglobin levels prior to donation to ensure their level is high enough to give blood safely.

If interested in helping with any of our projects please contact me at jean.pirozzi@gmail.com.

Jean Pirozzi, VP Service

#### NEWS

#### **MEET THE ADVOCATE – JEAN PIROZZI**



Jean Pirozzi's involvement with The Advocates takes place primarily at the Community Campus of Upstate Medical University. Coincidentally, Jean grew up in the Onondaga Hill area and has watched the growth of the geographical area with interest, as well as the growth at Community.

Jean and her husband Bob came to The Advocates with the merger of Community and Upstate Medical University. They both joined the Board, having been active in the Community General Hospital Auxiliary at the time. Bob has recently retired from the Board but remains an Advocate member. Jean remains an active Board member and serves as the Vice President for Service which oversees and secures volunteers for various service activities at both campuses. She coordinates the Blood Drives at Community (her favorite role) and has been a hospital volunteer in the past.

Jean and Bob, married for 47 years, are the parents of two grown sons and have two grandchildren. She is proud that her youngest son serviced 15 years in the Marine Corp and earned a Purple Heart for service in Iraq. Jean graduated from Onondaga Valley Academy (just down the hill from Community) and is a nursing school alumna. She received her certification in Nephrology Nursing and worked in nephrology/dialysis for over 30 years, some of them at University Hospital. She also assisted patients with eligibility for transplantation during her nursing career.

She believes the mission of The Advocates of providing opportunities and enhancing patient and family care as well as staff and departmental support, to be an important one. Jean recently renewed her membership in The Advocates and won our membership drawing for two free tickets to Mystery Malt & Merlot!

When not working to better life at the Community Campus, Jean is a member of the choir at St. Joseph's in Camillus and enjoys participating in the Book Club at Marcellus Free Library. She enjoys playing golf, monthly Folks marches and is learning pickle ball.

The Advocates are grateful to Jean for her continued and constant dedication and involvement. Judy Carr

#### **MANAGER BUSINESS & ADMINISTRATION**

The days fly by in The Advocates office between new contracts, new volunteering opportunities and, of course, Mystery, Malt & Merlot!

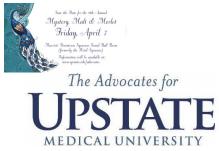
Our 2017-18 grant deadline was February 24<sup>th</sup>. Eighty grant applications were submitted, totaling over \$247,000. The Grant Committee will meet in April to make the very difficult decision of determining our recipients.

Please support our contracts as a portion of all sales benefit The Advocates.

Hope to see you at Mystery Malt & Merlot!



Susan York, Manager Business & Administration, 464-5610, yorks@upstate.edu FROM 2000-2016, THE ADVOCATES HAVE GIVEN BACK TO THE HOSPITAL \$2,431,793





### **OUR PREMIERE SPONSORS**



# Still time to make your reservation – DEADLINE: Wednesday 3/29

#### **OUR LIVE AUCTION ITEMS THIS YEAR INCLUDE**

•

- 10 Day stay at 18<sup>th</sup> Century Country Cottage in Heytesbury, Wiltshire, England
- 3 nights stay at Curry Mansion Inn, Key West, FL, plus a \$500 travel voucher from BTI Travel
- Professional Chef Dinner prepared in your home
- Block Island, Rhode Island in September
- Philadelphia Weekend Getaway

315.464.5610

- Stickley Mission Oak Harvey Ellis Rocker with Inlay
  Handmade Wood Bench
- Hershey Park Golf Outing
- JOBE Aero Yoga SUP; inflatable 11 ft. long stand up paddleboard

## Thank You to ALL our Sponsors

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