The Board of the Melanoma Research Foundation approved in December the funding of eight new Career Development Awards, the largest number of new grants ever funded. With the renewal of five second-year Career Development Awards and the Established Investigator Award, a total of fourteen grants will be funded. The two-year commitment for all fourteen grants will be $1,500,000.

“This is tremendous news for melanoma scientists and the melanoma community,” stated Randy Lomax, MRF Chair, as he announced the new awards. “We are making a commitment to scientific discovery so we can find new, effective treatments and ultimately a cure. Our donors and friends can take credit for bringing new scientists into melanoma laboratories and for encouraging cutting-edge research.”

MRF is now funding research at the University of Pennsylvania, Norris Cotton Cancer Center at Dartmouth College, Ohio State University, University of North Carolina, Children’s Memorial Research Hospital (Chicago), Washington University (St. Louis), UMDNJ/Robert Wood Johnson Medical School (New Jersey), University of Michigan, University of California Los Angeles, University of California San Francisco, Pennsylvania College of Medicine (Hershey), Translational Genomics Research Institute (Phoenix), and Indiana University School of Medicine.

New grants funded by the Melanoma Research Foundation in 2007 are described on Pages 2-5 in this issue.

As of March 1, MRF’s national office has moved into new facilities. Please note the new address:

Melanoma Research Foundation
170 Township Line Road, Bldg B
Hillsborough, NJ 08844

The 800 number remains the same: 800-MRF-1290.

The local telephone number is 908-281-0435.

“Our new office will allow us to continue to grow as a national organization,” stated Linda Pilkington, MRF’s Executive Director. “We have the space now to match our projected expansion in programs and services.”

Special thanks to Chad MacDonald, an MRF Board member, for the donation of office furniture and to Doug Eckrote from the Chicago area for computer equipment.

Randy Lomax, MRF Chair, has announced the receipt of a $541,100 grant from Second Curve Capital. The grant, approved by Tom Brown, Second Curve’s Founder and President, was recommended by Seth Bienstock, a Senior Analyst and a member of the company’s Portfolio Team. Based on the interests of Mr. Bienstock, the MRF Board will develop plans to expand melanoma education.
The MRF Board of Directors and Scientific Advisory Committee have approved the following first-year Career Development Awards for 2007. These awards are $50,000 per year for a maximum of two years.

Congratulations to the recipients and thank you to the Grants Review Committee for its critical work.

Dr. Alexander Krupnick
Washington University (St. Louis)

“Origin of Regulatory CD4-T Cells in Metastatic Malignant Melanoma”
Award in Honor of Katie Brennan, Dr. Casey Culbertson, Mr. & Mrs. Doug Eckrote, William Gelston, Keith Hennessey, Debbie Martel, Jennifer Mitchell, and Jay & Barbie Otto

RESEARCH SUMMARY:
While early detection and treatment of superficial disease has improved the overall survival for patients with malignant melanoma, currently those presenting with advanced or metastatic disease have few treatment options. Cancer immunotherapy has been used to treat patients with metastatic malignant melanoma but results have not been universally reproducible. Recent studies have documented the importance of regulatory T lymphocytes, or cells of the immune system that inhibit the activity of other cells, in preventing successful anti-tumor immune responses. This concept is especially pertinent to the field of melanoma immunotherapy due to the high number of regulatory T lymphocytes in melanoma tumor nodules.

The purpose of Dr. Krupnick’s research is to study in detail the origin of such regulatory T cells in malignant melanoma. He plans to focus on the mechanism of their expansion, delineate the cells within the tumors that drive this expansion, as well as to determine the location of his expansion. His ultimate goal is to disrupt the mechanisms of melanoma driven expansion of regulatory T lymphocytes in order to facilitate successful anti-melanoma immunotherapy.

Dr. Arati Sharma
The Pennsylvania College of Medicine (Hershey)

“Developing Novel Compounds to Inhibit Akt3 Signaling in Melanoma”

The Susan Fazio Melanoma Research Foundation Award

RESEARCH SUMMARY:
Malignant melanoma is an aggressive disease capable of quickly spreading around the body and becoming resistant to current therapies. Even though one American dies of melanoma every hour, there are no effective long-term treatments for patients' suffering from advanced disease. Development of therapies has been hindered due to lack of identification of melanoma causing genes responsible for the vast majority of melanomas and treatments designed to inhibit these cancer causing genes. Recently, a gene called Akt3 was identified that has abnormally high activity in ~70% of metastatic melanomas compared to normal cells (melanocytes). Since Akt3 is one of relatively few proteins identified that is unusually active in a large proportion of melanomas, it is a potentially important therapeutic target. Targeting Akt3 can also reduce the tumor forming ability of melanoma cells. This occurs by altering a process called apoptosis. Apoptosis is a method by which normal cells die. However, melanoma cells have figured out a way to survive despite apoptosis signals telling them to die; they do this is by increasing the amount of Akt3 activity. This action enables them to survive and resist chemotherapy treatment.

The goal of Dr. Sharma’s project is to develop drugs that would decrease the abnormally high Akt3 activity occurring in melanomas. To accomplish this objective she has identified a naturally occurring product found in green leafy vegetables that can reduce Akt3 activity in melanomas. Furthermore, she has modified the chemical structure to make the compound even more effective at killing melanoma cells. This project will examine how effective the compound is at inhibiting melanoma tumor development as well as metastasis, which is the processes by which cancer cells migrate around the body forming new tumors in distant organs. Thus, the agent developed is novel and inhibits abnormal Akt3 activity in melanomas. Preliminary studies show that it is effective at retarding melanoma development and has minimal toxicity. Targeted therapies that inhibit the activity of cancer causing genes hold great promise as an effective melanoma therapy. It is Dr. Sharma’s hope that the results of these studies will form the basis for testing this drug in human patients, and if successful, add another tool to the relatively small arsenal of effective melanoma therapeutics.
Dr. Angela Hess  
Children's Memorial Research Center (Chicago)  

“EphA2 as a Therapeutic Target for Malignant Melanoma”  

Award in Honor of Dermatology Interest Group Association and Miles for Melanoma Team Members (David Denny, Steve Facchetti, Kim Filips, Laura Faith Giesecke, Cheryl Hylton, Mollie Klurfeld, Stephanie Rico LaMarca, Mary Jo Lomax, Kristin Marcott, Rebecca Martel, Christy Perrin, and the Weadick Family)  

RESEARCH SUMMARY:  
Melanoma arises from the pigment producing cells in the skin. The incidence of melanoma continues to rise with the primary health threat associated with metastatic disease. Metastasis occurs when tumor cells break away from the primary tumor, move throughout the body, and form a tumor elsewhere. Once metastasis occurs it becomes very difficult to treat melanoma as conventional chemotherapy and radiation therapies are often ineffective leaving few options for patients with advanced disease. Therefore the identification of new markers predictive of melanoma metastasis as well as new therapeutic targets directed toward melanoma metastasis needs to be identified.  

The process of tumor cell metastasis is a complex one involving the precise coordination of several different cellular events, including the ability of the tumor cell to break away from the primary tumor, invade into underlying layers of the skin, enter the blood stream, travel to a distant organ site, and form a tumor within that site. Dr. Hess’s laboratory has been focused on understanding how these cellular events are regulated by investigating various signal transduction pathways which act to increase growth, invasion, migration, and tumor cell plasticity as characterized by vasculogenic mimicry—the unique ability of highly aggressive (prone to metastasis) but not poorly aggressive (not likely to metastasize) melanoma tumor cells to form primitive blood vessel structures associated with a poor clinical outcome. Recently, she has identified EphA2, an epithelial cell kinase, and the extracellular regulated kinase 1 and 2 (Erk1/2), a component of the Ras-Raf-Mek1/2-Erk1/2 signal transduction pathway, as promoters of melanoma invasion and vasculogenic mimicry. This project will explore the role of the Ras-Raf-Mek1/2-Erk1/2 pathway in mediating EphA2 expression in aggressive melanoma tumor cells and will test the hypothesis that EphA2 over-expression in aggressive melanoma is the result of the abnormally regulated Ras-Raf-Mek1/2-Erk1/2 pathway and is responsible for promoting metastatic melanoma as characterized by increased cell growth, invasion, migration, and vasculogenic mimicry. Additionally her project will address the feasibility of targeting EphA2 down-regulation in melanoma tumors as a means to decrease melanoma tumor burden and metastasis. In all, this project will establish EphA2 as a new target for therapeutic intervention, and offer new treatment avenues for patients with this devastating disease.

Dr. Jonathan Lee  
UMDNJ/Robert Wood Johnson Medical School (New Brunswick)  

“The Molecular Mechanism of Melanoma Sentinel Node Immunosuppression”  

Award in Memory of Kent McCullough  

RESEARCH SUMMARY:  
Localized melanomas are often curable by surgery alone, but once melanoma spreads to other parts of the body, it can cause significant problems, including death. More than 80% of melanoma patients who will eventually die of their disease already have undetectable disease present in other parts of the body at the time of their initial diagnosis. While a therapy that can prevent growth of melanoma in these organs can significantly improve survival, unfortunately, the mechanism by which these small sub-clinical diseases grow into large life-threatening lesions remains largely unknown. This poses a significant problem in designing a therapy that can prevent melanoma growth. However, significant evidence exists to support the idea that melanoma progression and growth is partly dependent upon melanoma-induced disruption in our immune system. Regional lymph nodes contain immune regulatory cells that can fight offending agents (including melanoma), and sentinel lymph nodes are the first lymph nodes to which melanoma spreads. Thus, evaluation of tumor-related immune responses in the sentinel lymph nodes provides a unique opportunity to understand the initial phase of interaction between melanoma and our immune system. By identifying the specifics of how melanoma disrupts our immune system, Dr. Lee’s project can potentially design a therapy that can use our own immune system to effectively combat and deter melanoma growth. Furthermore, application of such strategy is not just limited to melanoma, but can be applied to a variety of cancers with regional nodal metastasis.
Dr. Gregory Lesinski

The Ohio State University

“The Role of Suppressors of Cytokine Signaling (SOCS) in Mediating the Anti-tumor Properties of Interferon-alpha (IFN-a)”

Award in Memory of Brian Anderson, Tom Butler, Dr. R. Scott Heath, George Madzia, Carl Osterlof, Bruce Schocken, Bob Whitman and George A. Wilkins

RESEARCH SUMMARY:
Interferon-alpha (IFN-a) is a hormone made naturally by the body that can help the immune system recognize developing tumors. Synthetic IFN-a is also used as a treatment for patients with melanoma. In a small subset of patients, IFN-a can cure or control this disease. However, the precise way it does this is not understood. IFN-a works against melanoma by making white blood cells of the immune system more effective at killing tumor cells. However, there is no way to predict if this drug will work in every person. Doctors often give IFN-a at very high doses, and because of this, toxic side effects can occur, and patients stop taking this medicine early. IFN-a works by binding to a receptor on the outside of a cell, and causes a ‘domino-like’ effect to other proteins inside the cell. This domino effect caused by IFN-a can be stopped by a group of proteins called the Suppressors Of Cytokine Signaling or “SOCS,” that act as brakes to stop the IFN-a signal. SOCS proteins are possibly making cancer patients respond less to IFN-a by stopping the effects of this drug on white blood cells.

Dr. Lesinski’s laboratory has shown for the first time that IFN-a can cure melanoma in mice that lack a protein called SOCS1 (SOCS1 KO mice). Based on experiments done in his laboratory, he expects that two types of white blood cells (called CD8 T cells and dendritic cells) are important for curing SOCS1 KO mice with IFN-a. In his studies, SOCS1 KO mice with melanoma will be depleted of certain types of white blood cells and treated with IFN-a. These experiments will allow him to prove the specific cell type that is needed to cure SOCS1 KO mice with IFN-a. He will also be interested in testing what exactly is different about white blood cells from mice without SOCS1. For example, he will determine whether they are better at directly killing melanoma cells, or whether they make other proteins that increase the overall activity of the immune system against melanoma. He will also give normal mice melanoma and then transfer different types of white blood cells lacking SOCS1 into these mice before treating with IFN-a. Dr. Lesinski’s goal is to figure out exactly how IFN-a cures melanoma in mice that do not have SOCS1. He believes this knowledge could be used to help the immune system of patients recognize and eliminate melanoma tumors.

Dr. Victoria Crotzer

Indiana University School of Medicine

“LAMP-2 Function in Cytoplasmic Antigen Presentation by Human Melanomas”

The Bill Walter III Melanoma Research Fund and Jeanie O’Malley D’Ambrose Memorial Awards

RESEARCH SUMMARY:
The human immune system is critical for the destruction and removal of potentially lethal malignancies such as melanoma, whose incidence has risen significantly in recent years. Understanding the intricate details of the immune response to tumors is extremely important in developing novel therapeutic approaches for tumor eradication. One component of this tumor immune response is the T cell which recognizes small fragments of proteins known as peptides displayed on the surface of tumor cells. Upon recognition of these tumor peptides, the T cell can either directly lyse the malignant cells or activate other components of the immune system which subsequently destroy the tumor. T cells that recognize intracellular tumor proteins, also known as tumor antigens, have been isolated from melanoma patients. Thus, the ability of melanoma cells to display tumor peptides in order to activate specific T cells may be essential for tumor eradication. The overall goal of Dr. Crotzer’s proposal is to elucidate the mechanism of presentation of peptides from tumor Ag by human melanomas. More specifically, studies are proposed to investigate how tumor Ag are degraded into smaller peptides and how these tumor peptides are then transported into intracellular compartments such as lysosomes prior to egress to the cell surface for activation of tumor-specific T cells. A molecule located in the membrane of the lysosome, the Lysosome-Associated Membrane Protein-2 (LAMP-2), is important for the proper structure and function of lysosomes. Additional studies are proposed to determine what role LAMP-2 plays in transporting peptides derived from tumor Ag to lysosomes in human melanoma cells. Ultimately, these results will prove valuable in the development of new therapeutic strategies for targeting the T cell response for tumor eradication.
Dr. Kevin Brown
The Translational Genomics Research Institute (Phoenix)

“Population-based Whole Genome Association Study of Melanoma Risk Using DNA Pooling”

Award in Honor of 2007 Wings of Hope Recipients: Gregory & Jeanine Rush and the Bristol-Myers Squibb Foundation

RESEARCH SUMMARY:
Despite decades of research, advanced-stage cutaneous malignant melanoma remains a nearly incurable disease. Detection of the disease in its earliest and most treatable form is perhaps our best form of cure. While there are multiple factors that contribute to melanoma risk, numerous studies have suggested that genetics plays a significant role. Further characterization of the genetic factors involved in risk of developing cutaneous melanoma will form the basis for understanding which individuals are most at risk, how that risk can be modified, and how that knowledge might lead to targeted surveillance and recognition of disease at early stages, when treatment strategies are maximally beneficial. In addition, the identification of genes predisposing to melanoma and characterization of their cellular function could potentially lead to the development of novel therapies for melanoma prevention and/or treatment in at-risk individuals.

While several genes have already been identified that influence the risk of developing melanoma, these genes fail to account for the majority of genetic risk in the general population. Numerous other genes are likely to contribute to melanoma risk. Given very recent technological developments, it is now possible to search for such genes by performing a genome-wide association study. This type of study compares the DNA sequences of hundreds to thousands of melanoma patients at several hundred thousand specific locations across the human genome to those of healthy control individuals. The location at which a specific DNA sequence occurs more commonly in melanoma patients than healthy controls suggests the location within the genome of a gene that may mediate melanoma risk. Despite the technical feasibility, such studies can cost millions of dollars. Dr. Brown’s proposal applies a technologically innovative approach whereby the patient DNA samples from melanoma patients and likewise controls are grouped together into “pools” prior to analysis; the frequency of specific DNA sequences in 1,600 melanoma patients and 1,600 healthy controls will thereby be estimated in order to identify novel melanoma susceptibility genes at a fraction of the cost.

Dr. Xiaowei Xu
University of Pennsylvania

“The Role of Erythropoietin and Its Receptor in Melanoma Cell Survival in Vivo”

The Susan Fazio Melanoma Research Foundation Award

RESEARCH SUMMARY:
Erythropoietin (Epo) is well-known to stimulate the growth of red blood cells via its receptor (EpoR) on immature red blood cells. Unlike previous beliefs, it is now evident that EpoR is expressed not only on hematopoietic cells, but also on other normal and cancerous cells. We recently discovered that melanoma cells express EpoR and they can also secret Epo. This autocrine loop in melanoma cells induces activation of MEK/ERK and PI3K/Akt pathways, which can keep melanoma cells alive under adverse conditions. When we decreased EpoR expression on melanoma cells using RNA interference, these cells grow significantly slower in the culture dish and in the animal models. Therefore, Dr. Xu’s research hypothesizes that Epo/EpoR signaling pathway is required for melanoma cell survival in vivo. He plans to study whether melanomas will grow big and faster when we give Epo to mice bearing EpoR positive melanomas and how Epo/EpoR helps melanoma cells survive. He will also study whether EpoR can be targeted in the melanoma cells to make them stop growing using RNA interference and/or chemical compounds. The results of these studies will give a better understanding of the function of Epo and EpoR during melanoma progression, and help to identify potential novel therapeutic targets to treat melanoma. In addition, because Epo is widely used clinically in patients with cancer, findings from these studies may potentially change the clinical usage of Epo in cancer patients.
2007 Renewed Grants

ESTABLISHED INVESTIGATOR AWARD

Martin McMahon, PhD
University of California, San Francisco

“A Mouse Model of BRAF-induced Melanoma”

The Diana Ashby Award by The Brenda MacDonald Melanoma Research Foundation

CAREER DEVELOPMENT AWARDS

James E. Bear, PhD
University of North Carolina – Chapel Hill

“The Role of Coactosin in Melanoma Motility and Metastasis”

Award in Memory of Don Aronow, Michael Geltrude, Jack Riemen and Murray Richardson

Mikhail Nikiforov, PhD
University of Michigan

“Small Molecule Antagonists of Oncoprotein Myc as Inhibitors of Malignant Melanoma”

Award in Memory of Thomas W. Barner, Kathy Bowers, Art Fuller, Robert Hansen, Randy G. Johnson and Linda A. Transou

Pamela Pollock, PhD
Translational Genomics Research Institute, Phoenix, Arizona

“Investigation of FGFR2 as a Novel Oncogene in Melanoma”

Award in Memory of Kerry Daveline, Kathy Domijan, Paul Mikalauskas, Kathy Salling, Deb Sandry, Leonard E. Warren and Jon Warrington

Antoni Ribas, MD
University of California Los Angeles

“Mechanisms of Immune System-mediated Tumor Regressions in Patients with Melanoma”

Two Faced Cosmetics’ Love Lisa Grant

Mary Jo Turk, PhD
Norris Cotton Cancer Center
Dartmouth College, Lebanon, New Hampshire

“Generating and Maintaining Post-Excisional Immunity against Poorly-Immunogenic Melanoma”

Award in Memory of Barry Potter by Susan Comeau and Tricia Elaine Black by Teb’s Troops
The MRF News Letter  Winter 2007

MRF FUNDS MEETING TO REVISIT CURRENT CLASSIFICATION OF MELANOMA

Dr. Boris Bastian from the University of California at San Francisco and Dr. Alain Spatz from the European Organization for the Research and Treatment of Cancer brought together a group of internationally renowned melanoma experts from the United States, Europe, and Australia in January in Monterey, California with the goal of revisiting the current classification of melanoma. This meeting was supported by the Melanoma Research Foundation.

In explanation of the importance of this meeting, Dr. Bastian noted: “Melanoma is a multifaceted disease that can vary significantly in its presentation. There is emerging evidence that it is not a homogenous disease, but is comprised of several distinct subtypes that may have different requirements in terms of treatment and relation to UV light. Multiple categories of melanoma have already been distinguished based on pathological and clinical features. In the current WHO classification of skin tumors 10 different types are described. This system has its basis in the ‘histogenetic’ classification proposed by Wallace Clark and colleagues, which employed histopathology, anatomic site and degree of sun-damage to initially distinguish four types of melanoma. A prominent feature for classification was the distribution of melanocytes within the early phase of melanoma growth in which the tumor expands on the surface of the skin, the radial growth phase (RGP). Three different types were distinguished based on their intraepidermal growth pattern and anatomic site – superficial spreading melanoma (SSM), lentigo maligna melanoma (LMM), and acral-lentiginous melanoma (ALM). A fourth type, nodular melanoma (NM), was proposed as a separate category because it presented without an adjacent significant radial growth phase. However, the WHO and alternative classification schemes have had limited clinical impact, in major part because once metastasis has occurred there is a very homogeneous and grim clinical course. The cytotoxic and immunological therapies that have been available, which do not target specific functional regulatory pathways in cells, have not shown much therapeutic effectiveness for any melanomas. In addition, many of the classification criteria that have been proposed show considerable overlap, making reproducible categorization of cases difficult. Thus melanoma is still frequently regarded as a homogeneous disease, and only a small minority of investigative studies in the fields of epidemiology, cell biology, genetics, and therapy has emphasized potential differences among disease subgroups. Over the last decade several novel genetic alterations have been discovered in melanoma. Subsequent studies showed that mutations in oncogenes such as BRAF and KIT are frequent in certain subsets of melanomas but are rare in others, with very little overlap. These alterations and others have provided the opportunity to revisit the current classification of melanoma and make improvements.”

The Monterey group reached consensus that the current classification can be improved and should incorporate emerging genetic information. The group discussed the heterogeneity of melanoma from aspects such as epidemiology, dermatology, pathology, oncology, and molecular genetics. A study was initiated with the goal to identify a set of clinical and histopathological markers that are well reproducible among observers and show correlation with the underlying genetic alterations. The experts met again in March in Paris to discuss the data and prepare a report. The final goal of the initiative is to identify a set of homogeneous groups of melanoma subtypes that share a common pathogenesis, clinical features, and requirement for management. The hope is that an improved melanoma classification that describes more uniform disease subsets will facilitate the understanding of melanoma susceptibility and help with stratification for therapy.

UNITED WAY DONOR OPTION

Supporting MRF’s mission of Research, Education and Advocacy is possible through local United Ways by using the donor option method of pledge support. Contact your company’s United Way organizing committee and ask how you can designate MRF for your United Way contribution. If necessary, we will provide information to your United Way or organizing committee to help insure that your donation will be used for research, education and advocacy.
MATCHING GIFT SUPPORT IN 2006
MRF thanks the following corporate giving programs for matching donations in 2006:

Abbott Laboratories
Actina Foundation
American Express Company
Ameriprise Financial
Aon Foundation
Bank of America Foundation
ChevronTexaco
Cingular Wireless
Citigroup Foundation
Computer Associates
Credit Lenders Service Agency
Deutsche Bank Americas Foundation
Dominion Foundation
ExxonMobil Foundation
Gannett Foundation, Inc.
Gap Foundation
Global Impact
Goldman, Sachs & Co.

HSBC Philanthropic Programs
Johnson & Johnson
Kimberly Clark Foundation
Kraft Foods
Levi Strauss Foundation
Lord, Abbott & Co. LLC
Merck Partnership for Giving
Merrill Lynch & Co.
Foundation
Microsoft Giving Campaign
Morgan Stanley
NJ Natural Gas
PNC Foundation
Renaissance Technologies Corp.
ResCap Community Relations
Seren Inc.
The Prudential Foundation
UnitedHealth Group
Wachovia Foundation

2006 FISCAL YEAR: PRE-AUDIT INDICATES ANOTHER BANNER YEAR
The Melanoma Research Foundation, based on pre-audited figures, raised almost $1,800,000 in 2006, a record year. In the past four years annual income has increased at an approximate rate of 30% per year. “There are many people, companies and foundations to credit with our growth,” explained Randy Lomax, MRF Chair, “and each of them have our appreciation as well as the thanks of the melanoma community. With these contributed funds, we have been able to do much, much more to positively impact our mission of melanoma research, education and advocacy. And as our many volunteers, donors and friends appreciate, we are very proud of our increases in research funding.”

Based on pre-audited expenses of just under $1,800,000, we are estimating our allocation of expenses as follows:

Melanoma Research Foundation Expenditures for 2006

NEW MRF WEBSITE CLOSE TO UNVEILING
Keep your eyes open for MRF’s new website which currently being redesigned and upgraded. Dave Schropfer, MRF Board member, is coordinating the major task in cooperation with IT Solutions.

CHECK YOUR MAILBOX FOR 2007 MEMBERSHIP CAMPAIGN
The 2007 MRF Membership letter will be in your mailbox in May, Melanoma Awareness Month. Your support as a member is once again appreciated.

MATCHING GIFT
Does your employer have a matching gift program?

NEWSFLASH FOR ALL QUILTERS: HELP US CREATE A MELANOMA QUILT

With leadership from Candi Warrington of Gibbon, Nebraska, plans are underway to create a Melanoma Quilt to be displayed at major community events in order to focus more attention on melanoma and the MRF. The quilt will allow individuals to memorialize a loved one or to honor melanoma survivors. Candi and her husband, Jim, do an annual fundraiser, Operation Wardog against Melanoma, in memory of their son, Jon. If you are interested in creating a square for the quilt, please contact Candi at 308-468-6337 or by email at jcwarrin@nctc.net.

YOUR HELP IS NEEDED: MELANOMA AWARENESS DVD FOR SCHOOLS AVAILABLE FOR DISTRIBUTION

The Mollie Biggane Melanoma Foundation (www.molliesfund.org) an affiliated partner of the Melanoma Research Foundation, has produced an educational video (DVD) on melanoma as well as a lesson plan written by New York State’s Association of Health, Physical Education, Recreation and Dance (AHPERD). The video is currently part of the health curriculum in middle schools and high schools in New York and New Jersey. This DVD/CD package is free and the Biggane Foundation is looking for volunteers to help distribute and implement this awareness program in schools across the country. If you can help the Biggane Foundation reach your state’s education officials, please contact Jack Biggane at www.molliesfund.org.

HAWAIIAN TROPIC SUPPORTS COMMUNITY EVENTS FOR 3RD YEAR

Hawaiian Tropic has once again donated sunscreen samples for distribution to community fundraisers and awareness events in 2007. This is the company’s third year of support.

Abbott Laboratories
Actina Foundation
American Express Company
Ameriprise Financial
Aon Foundation
Bank of America Foundation
ChevronTexaco
Cingular Wireless
Citigroup Foundation
Computer Associates
Credit Lenders Service Agency
Deutsche Bank Americas Foundation
Dominion Foundation
ExxonMobil Foundation
Gannett Foundation, Inc.
Gap Foundation
Global Impact
Goldman, Sachs & Co.

HSBC Philanthropic Programs
Johnson & Johnson
Kimberly Clark Foundation
Kraft Foods
Levi Strauss Foundation
Lord, Abbott & Co. LLC
Merck Partnership for Giving
Merrill Lynch & Co.
Foundation
Microsoft Giving Campaign
Morgan Stanley
NJ Natural Gas
PNC Foundation
Renaissance Technologies Corp.
ResCap Community Relations
Seren Inc.
The Prudential Foundation
UnitedHealth Group
Wachovia Foundation
Representatives of the Melanoma Research Foundation joined with members of the research, dermatology, surgery, medical oncology, and advocacy communities, along with basic scientists, pharmaceutical companies and consumers, at the National Cancer Institute from February 28-March 2. The meeting was sponsored by the NCI and was co-chaired by Dr. Meenhard Herlyn of the Society for Melanoma Research and Cherie Nichols and Dr. Allison Martin from the NCI.

The purpose of the meeting, as explained by Dr. Lynn Schuchter, Chair of MRF’s Scientific Advisory Committee, was “To identify critical short and long term opportunities to move the melanoma field forward and in effect make important progress against melanoma. The result would also be to prepare a position paper by May for Dr. John Niederhuber, NCI Director, who will present the report to Congress in July 2007.”

Meeting participants were divided into six opportunity areas which included:

- **Targets for Therapy.** Identify key pathways that are activated or abnormal in melanoma cells and develop new treatments which target the abnormal pathway.

- **Molecular Signatures.** Understand at the molecular level unique aspects to melanoma. This will provide improvements in diagnosis, monitoring disease recurrence and the development of new treatment.

- **Host Response.** Understanding the role of the immune system and melanoma and develop more effective immunotherapies for patients with cancer.

- **Prevention.** Develop scientific strategies to reduce melanoma incidence, morbidity and mortality through primary prevention (i.e. sun protection) and secondary prevention (i.e. improved detection).

- **Training and Consortia Teams.** Need to bring researchers together from multiple fields to achieve our goal of decreasing suffering and death from melanoma. Need to develop new ways to foster collaboration. Need to increase the training of researchers interested in melanoma and recruit new investigators to the field.

- **Infrastructure.** The lack of melanoma tissue for research studies is a major hurdle in the melanoma field. There are many reasons why this occurs. First a primary melanoma on the skin is often very small and most of the tissue from the skin biopsy is needed for the pathologist to make a diagnosis of melanoma. Also, very often the initial biopsy is done in a local dermatologist office so the melanoma tissue never gets to the hospital or to an academic center where the research takes place. New strategies are needed to expand the number of melanoma tissues that are available for the research community.

Each “opportunity group” met by a series of teleconferences prior to the face-to-face meeting to identify key areas, prioritize needs and gaps in melanoma research, and to develop strategies and action items to address these issues. The result, as Dr. Schuchter explained, was the identification of “short and long term opportunities for focused, multi-disciplinary research aimed at reducing the incidence of melanoma and improving survival associated with melanoma.”

The NCI meeting came about because of the language included in the Senate version of the Fiscal 2007 Labor, Health and Human Services Appropriations bill under the NIH/National Cancer Institute’s section of the report. This language was encouraged by MRF and through the energies of Ed Long, a member of the MRF Board. The report stated:

“Melanoma -Melanoma is the fastest growing cancer in the United States and worldwide. The etiology of the disease is not well understood, and the average life span of patients with advanced melanoma is less than 1 year. Nevertheless, there is a shortage of melanoma researchers and a lack of effective drugs and treatments. Therefore, the Committee strongly urges the NCI to convene a panel of consumers, extramural and intramural scientists to develop a 5-year strategic plan for melanoma research and submit it to the Committee by July 1, 2007. The strategic plan should identify the current shortfalls and promise of melanoma research and recommended new directions and targets for future research. The plan should also explore the role of new and innovative technologies including shared biospecimen repositories, identify and validate melanoma-specific targets to design effective therapy; and identify opportunities for facilitating translational research in this area.”

“This is certainly an exciting opportunity for the melanoma field,” stated Dr. Schuchter. “Our hope is that as a result of this meeting, and the forthcoming report, there will be significant expansion in melanoma research, new funding opportunities, and heightened public awareness of melanoma. All are critical to finding the cure for melanoma.”
MARK YOUR CALENDAR!

Congratulations to volunteers involved with the following 2007 community events:

February 11 University of Alabama Miles for Melanoma – Mercedes Marathon – Birmingham, AL
February 22 Spaghetti Dinner – Bloomington, MN
March 31 Texas Tech Miles for Melanoma – Lubbock, TX

(Other April community events on Page 14.)

THANK YOU!

MRF and the people who attended our recent educational symposia thank the following medical professionals who made presentations and talked with members of the melanoma community. We appreciate your partnership and support.

April 21 –
University of California, Irvine Campus: In cooperation with the Chao Family Comprehensive Cancer Center, UCI Medical Center
Anand K. Ganesan, MD, PhD
John Fruehauf, MD, PhD
James G. Jakowatz, MD
Kenneth Linden, MD

May 5 –
Uniondale, New York: In cooperation with the Mollie Biggane Melanoma Foundation
Howard L. Kaufman, MD, Coordinator,
Julide Tok-Celebi, MD
Bret Taback, MD
Anna Pavlick, DO
Jedd Wolchock, MD, PhD
Paul Chapman, MD

May 11 –
Philadelphia, Pennsylvania: In cooperation with the Abramson Cancer Center at the University of Pennsylvania
Lynn Schuchter, MD, Conference Chair
Jonathan Wolfe, MD
DuPont Guerry, IV, MD
Suzanne McGettigan, CRNP, MSN
Neal Niznan, MSW, LSW
David Bailey, Singer/Songwriter
Keith Flaherty, MD
Katrina Cleghorn, MS, RD, LDN
Helen L. Coons, MD
Jun Mao, MD
Mara Wai, MEd
Linda Boyle, PT, DPT, CLT-LANA
Rivi Diamond, MA

MARK YOUR CALENDAR AND JOIN US AT ANY OF THESE EVENTS!

May 5
Educational Symposium – In cooperation with the Mollie Biggane Melanoma Foundation
– Long Island, NY

May 5
2nd Annual KENTucky Derby Party
– Dewey Beach, DE

May 5
3rd Annual Norman J. Memorial Fundraiser
– Lake Lanier, GA

May 5
Benefit Run – Christian Motorcycle Association
– Gibbon, NE

May 6
Miles for Melanoma - Flying Pig Marathon
– Cincinnati, OH

May 7
Hack n’ Smack Celebrity Golf Outing
– Tarzana, CA

May 11
Educational Symposium – In cooperation with the University of Pennsylvania
– Philadelphia, PA

May 12
Miles for Melanoma - Doin’ It For Deb
– Rock Island, IL

May 12
Randy G. Johnson Golf Memorial
– Port Orchard, WA

May 19
3rd Annual Linda A. Transou March
– Northville, MI

May 19
Thomas W. Barner Memorial Fund Barbecue
– Loudonville, NY

May 19
5th Annual Art’s Ride
– Loudonville, NY

May 20
A Bowling Fundraiser
– Walla Walla, WA

And after May, there is more to put on your calendar . . .

June 16
Block the Sun Run
– Wisconsin Dells, WI

July 7
Miles for Melanoma 5K Run & Walk
– North Orange County, CA

July 22
3rd Annual Poker Run in Memory of Bruce Schocken
– Shortville, NY

August 5
2007 Twins Days 5K Run & Fun Walk
– Twinsburg, OH

August 6
6th Annual Don Aronow Golf Classic
– Lake Success, NY

August 11
2nd Annual Tom Butler Golf Tournament
– St. Louis, MO

Sept. 16
1st Annual Miles for Melanoma Walk
– Lincroft, NJ

Sept. 8
2nd Annual Auction & Dinner – Susan Fazio Foundation for Melanoma Foundation
– Plymouth Meeting, PA

Sept. 21
4th Annual Jack Riemen Memorial Golf Classic
– Lemont, IL

October 3
Annual Wings of Hope Event
– New York, NY

Check the Calendar on the MRF website www.melanoma.org for information on upcoming symposia and community events.

Let us hear from you if you are interested in organizing a community fundraiser or awareness event.
CONGRATULATIONS & THANKS TO OUR 2006 MILES FOR MELANOMA TEAM

In 2006 MRF was honored to have over 30 individuals and families join our Miles for Melanoma program and participate in marathons across the United States. These included Dermatology Interest Groups on US medical school campuses. We thank each of them for raising money for research, which resulted in a first-year Career Development Award to Dr. Angela Hess at Children’s Memorial Research Center in Chicago.

Members of the Weadick Team participating in the Flying Pig Marathon in Cincinnati

Kim Filps and Bob Babiarz. Kim ran in the Detroit Free Press Marathon in memory of Bob

Mollie Klurfeld in the Chicago Marathon in memory of Ian MacDonald

Steve Facchetti at the finish line in the New York City Marathon

Rebecca Martell and her cousin, Laura, following the LaSalle Bank Marathon in Chicago

Greg Bourgeois, a medical student at the University of Alabama and DIG member, and Hannah Woods following the Mercedes Marathon in Birmingham

Congratulations and thanks to our 2006 Miles for Melanoma Team members . . .

David Denny – New York City Marathon
Karen Dolge – Boston Marathon
Steve Facchetti – New York City Marathon
Kim Filips – Detroit Free Press Marathon – In Memory of Bob Babiarz
Laura Faith Geisecke – Orange County (CA) Marathon – In Memory of Christine Giesecke
Cheryl Hylton – San Francisco Marathon
Mollie Klurfeld – Chicago Marathon – In Memory of Ian MacDonald
Stephanie Ricco LaMarca – New Jersey Marathon – In Memory of Phil Ricco
Mary Jo Lomax – San Francisco Marathon
Kristin Marcott – Boston Marathon – In Honor of Harold Marcott
Rebecca Martel – LaSalle Bank Chicago Marathon – In Honor of Laura
Christy Perrin – In Memory of Don Perrin
Weadick Family – Flying Pig Marathon, Cincinnati – In Honor of Jon Witte

Congratulations and thanks as well to our 2006 Dermatology Interest Group Miles for Melanoma teams:

Case Western University DIG – Cleveland Marathon
University of California, San Francisco DIG – San Francisco Marathon
University of South Carolina DIG – Lake Carolina Fun Run
Vanderbilt University DIG – Country Music Marathon & Half Marathon

Join our Miles for Melanoma Team
Call for Information
WITH APPRECIATION, THE MELANOMA RESEARCH FOUNDATION RECOGNIZES ITS 2006 MEMBERS

Chairman's Members
($1,000 +)
Jeffrey S. Ashby
Gary & Karina Bart
Robert & Patricia Baynton
Susan & Robert Bodansky
Aaron & Jody Bonner
William Dakin
Jeffrey & Jill Degen
Norval & Lavina Doddridge
Doug & Kimberly Eckrote
William O. Gelston
William & Margaret Greer
Elizabeth Ann Grimm, Ph.D.
Patrick & Pamela Healey
Anne Hurley
Kimberly Jaxtheimer
Michael & Beth Jones
Mr. & Mrs. Bill Kingsbury
Salvador & Jacqueline Lecese
Randy & Mary Jo Lomax
Gary Martin
Dorothy J. McCarey
Patricia M. Mecum
Melissa Motz
June & Paul Muehr
Michael J. Quattro
Rush Family Charitable Trust
Gregory & Jeanine Rush
Deborah & Steven St. John
Kenneth R. Salling
Mr. Robin R. Shinn
Kurt F. Somerville
Tara Spiess
Thomas M. Von Lehman
Claire Wallace
Eileen & Richard Wilson

Educator Members
($250-499)
Ingrid W. Amberg
Jean Bennett
Beth Bilsley
Dr. & Mrs. Jay L. Bosworth
Bob & Sharon Britt
Sharon K. Brock
Kyle & John Byrnes
Mary K. Cullen, M.D.
David Elder
Wendy Finn
George Fisher
Harry & Vicki Forrey
Walter & Dorothy French
William & Sharon Fuller
Daniel & Susan Genuend
The Giuffra Family
Melvin Hirsch
Stephen & Rachel Holzman
Cheryl & Jeffrey Hylton
Bill & Wilma Johnston
Eileen M. Kelly
Gerald E. Lange
Lucinda B. Lanman
Peter & Marion Madoff
Keith & Alina Martinet
Justin E. Metz
Joan Mikalauskas
Wynn Miller
Dr. David Minor
Jeffrey W. Myers
Richard Nieporent
Anna A. Niewiarowska, M.D.
Eileen O'Donnell
Susan Pillen-Levine
Rachel Pope
John & Carol Purcell
Carl & Bridget Riley
Deidre Schiela
Kathryn J. Sirovatka
Kerri South
Kenneth Sovel
Lea & Andrew Weiss
Kerry & James Wittman
Lynda Wood
Gerald & Dawn Zazzero
Marie E. Zolfo

Research Members
($500-999)
Martha A. Bartenbach
Peggy & Mark Cheirrett
Laurie & Jim Cordell
Ann M. Cox
Dr. Casey Culbertson
Charles J. Duffy
Rhea Eskew, Jr., Ph.D. & Kathleen Melia, Ph.D.
David Fisher, M.D., Ph.D.
Steven Greenwald
Dr. John G. Goflinos
Leonard R. Jaskol
Martha F. Jondle
Ronald & Dorothy Keiser
M. Marcia Kowalski
Rick & Patricia Lazio
David D. Link
Jonathan & Laura Schoff
Michael & Cara Tindell
Ged D. Vanderkolk
Robert C. Wartman, Jr.
Matthew A. Wartman
Georgeann & John Whelan
Andy & Kim Witte

Advocate Members
($100-249)
Gail G. Aills
Carole Albers
Richard R. Amraen
Charles & Bethany Amrich
Gail Aronow
Lee Bailey
Marlys Beal
Barbara J. Bergmann
Betty Bittinger
John & Rebecca Black
Goldie Blumenstyk
Michael & Susan Boland
Charles & Susan Bowes
Mary E. Broderick
Michael & Hannelore Castrigano
Alistair & Janie Cochran
Mr. & Mrs. Jim Coggin
Brian S. Cole
William & Ann Constad
Lawrence & Arlene Corley
Barbara Cox
Victor Crown
Lynn N. Cunningham
Stephanie Anne Dahlberg
Robert & Carol Dakin
Elizabeth B. Dakin
Diane Damewood
Larry & Cynthia Daniel
Michelle E. Danielson
Carolyn & Michael DeMelas
Ron & Sandi Dreyfus
Barbara A. Dunn
Tricia A. Edwards
Robert C. Eisenach
Linda J. Facklam
Joseph L. Fazio
Mark M. Feitl
John M. Fitts
Michael & Maura Fornataro
Sharon L. Gamache
Judith Giovan
Rebecca A. Goldsmith
Roberta Gonzalez
Cheryl K. Hamlock
Thomas & Susan Hardy
Lynda Harris
Gina Wood Hart
George & Mary Ellen Hartnell
Dorothy & Meehard Herlyn
Rev. & Mrs. Robert M. Honig
Lynn S. Hulette
Robert B. Jenkins
Stuwert & Robin Johnson
Michael & Patricia Keltner
Amanda Kemney
Patricia M. King
Jane C. Kingsbury
Jeffrey & Kelly Konesko
Membership

Michael & Susan Young
Judy & Joel Zaklin
Joan Bricks Zone

Members
($25-99)

Marlyn Ross Adams
Julie Adams
Beth Peurathree Alberson
Marcia M. Alboret casti
Angela S. Alexander
Mike & Mary Allen Baum
William & Eleanor Bade
Robert & Rosalie Baker
Manny Bandel
Deborah Barnhart
M. Virginia Bartt
Brian & Jackie Bartlett
Karen S. Baughman
Raymond & Mary Ellen Baum
Linda A. Brobst
Mirta D. Caminero, M.D.
Robert & Elizabeth Carlson
Richard J. Caserta
Jean A. Chinzi
Joy Lynn & Richard Chronowice
Gerald & Joanne Chomey
Gerald & Joanne Chomey
Christopher & Deborah Clene
Elizabeth Ann Cohen
Debrah A. Cohen
Hazel Connally
John & Janet Cormode
Carol D. Culin
Donald & Kathleen Curry
Austin R. Curry
Cynthia L. Curry
Thomas & Elizabeth Cutter
Jennifer Davis
Rory & Robin Dechowitz
Vincent & Roseann Diana
HeLEN & Theodor Dmytryk
Angela G. Cruz Donnell
Thomas & Dorothy Donoghue
Patrick & Monica Donohue
Carol M. Dwyer
Lisa Eber
Karen Perry Ehinger
Cory & Mary Ann Eisner
Michele & Daniel Elbaum
Roderic & Diane Ellman
Helena T. Ernest
Melissa & Thomas Eschmann
Patricia A. Fitzgerld
Steven & Jennifer Frey
Karen Frischman
Lynne & Kenneth Furfari
Marc Gelinas
Alan Geller
Walter & Irene Godfrey
Esther Goldenberg
Eleanor Goldman
Doris Greenspan
Patricia A. Griffin

David & Barbara Griffin
Douglas & Irene Grossman
Joline & Steven Gruz
Dana Haas
Cristina M. Hartgers
Beverly Hartman
Agnes M. Hiebs, D.D.S.
Cynthia Hogan
Jerry & Jonnie Mae Hooper
Susan Hucezk
Lori Hunt
Kathleen Hurle
Kathryn & Charles Karnack
Hazel E. Kaufman
Paula Kay
Joseph & Margaret Kelly
Nancy M. Kelsey
Mark & Kathleen Kinsel
Judith A. Kirby
Jean C. Klein
Henry & Patricia Koecher
Marlean & Ed Komar
Stanley & Marie Kozenewski
John & Dianna Lamphe
Stanley & Jean Lacer
Karen Lent
Steven & Bethann Helesher
Michael & Marla Lewis
Adriana Lewis
Carol Lewis
Bill & Mary Lindemann
Kenneth & Janice Lindmark
Joel & Renee Lippman
Laura Longley
Gillian MacDonald
Carrie MacMillin
Jeffrey & Marianne Madzia
Sandra K. Madzia
Mr. & Mrs. John Mancuso
Robert & Carole Marshall
Dolores Martello
Mack & Karen Mathews
Edward & Maureen McGahan
Cynthia A. McGovern
Ralph & Elinor McKeel
Roger & Marie McMahon
Warren & Christina Meinzeg
Sherry & Robert Melski
Don & Patty Messatza
J.K. Molpus
Diana Moore
Joyce M. Morin
Mel & Linda Morrow
Eliot N. Mostow, M.D.
Diane & Thomas Neville
Dian Newell
Julie A. Nicol-Rowe
Teressa North
Robert & Virginia O'Brien
Donald & Lois Osborn
Daniel & Susan Ouellette
Brian & Theresa Parker
Rosalie E. Parkinson
Francey Lu Peartree
Herbert Daniel Peartree
Frances L. Peartree

Thomas & Nancy Perrera
Roger Phillips, Ph.D.
Maryann Pierce
Daniel Pinkel, Ph.D.
Gary & Marjorie Reed
Mario Relvini
Mary & Clifford Remiyac
Susan A. Rinaldi
William & Patricia Robbins
Rodney P. Robinson
Vera Robinson
Morton S. Roggen
Sharon Romaglia
Stephen & Marilyn Rosen
Daniel & Donna Rudolph
Michael A. Rushford
Mary & Robert Sampson
Carver Sapp
Ruth L. Schatzman
Marie M. Schlegel
Nicolas & Marie-Therese
Schmelzer
Natalie Schneider
Judith Ann Schoeken
Peter & Susan Schundler
Carla Scott
Joan Simons
Robert & Sally Skillen
Thomas & Jamie Smith
Todd & Anneliese Smith
Michael & Diane Smukler
Ronald & Irene Soel
George & Lynne Spangler
Ann W. Speed
Cynthia D. Sprouse
Sharon & Steven Stone
Bill & Gerri Stoudley
Marvin & Andrea Storey
Donna Sullivan
Gary & Sherie Surabaugh
Lucille Tatulli
Alyson Jean Thomas
Rita & Hollis Thompson
Linda Tomkiewicz
Greg & Lori Turski
Rita Vallier
Billie & Charlame Van Meter
Donald & Mary Jo Van Tiem
Eugene M. Vassel
Sandra Volkens
William & Nancy Walsh
Kathleen Walter
Larry & Janis Walter
Mary L. Walters
Geraldine Wartman
Mary F. Wattenberg
Gale Wernke
John S. Whiting
Barbara & Philip Williams
Jeanine Peartree Wilson
Tracey & Michael Wooley
Bruce Younger, M.D.
Betty Ziots
Christine R. Zoufaly
2006 COMMUNITY EVENTS

These 2006 events were not reported in the last issue of the MRF Newsletter. We continue to appreciate the support from all friends, donors and volunteers.

2ND ANNUAL LINDA A. TRANSOU MELANOMA MARCH – Northville, MI

Congratulations to Luanne Ewald and her committee, as well as to Rob Transou and his family, for the 2nd Annual Linda A. Transou Melanoma March on May 20 at Maybury State Park in Northville, Michigan. Joining them in 2006 was Randy Lomax, MRF Chair, and his wife, Mary Jo. In the first two years the March has raised about $150,000 for melanoma research. In 2006 the first Diana Ashby Research Award in Memory of Linda A. Transou was awarded to Dr. Martin McMahon at the University of California San Francisco. This was MRF's first two-year $200,000 research grant. The 2007 March is scheduled for May 19, once again at Maybury State Park.

2ND ANNUAL SWINGIN’ FOR JEANIE GOLF TOURNAMENT – Chicago, IL

Congratulations to Carol Johans, Sylvia O’Malley and Mary Donnell, as well as friends of Jeanie D’Ambrosia, for another successful June 22, 2006 golf tournament. Carol and Mary presented a $30,000 check from the Swingin’ for Jeanie Golf Tournament at last year’s National Training meeting in Chicago.

MRF’S FIRST BUNCO TOURNAMENT – Lake Mary, FL

Congratulations to Deborah Martel for organizing the first Bunco for Melanoma on September 23. The event raised over $5,500. (Also thank Debbie’s daughter, Rebecca, who was a 2006 Miles for Melanoma Team member.)

2ND ANNUAL SCHOCKEN FAMILY POKER RUN – Shortsville, NY

Congratulations to Laurie Schocken and her family for organizing the July 29th “Angels Among Us,” the 2nd annual poker ride in memory of Bruce Schocken. Almost 150 motorcyclists participated and raised almost $1,500. This year’s poke run will be held on July 22.

1st ANNUAL TOM BUTLER GOLF TOURNAMENT – St. Louis, MO

Congratulations to Peg Boyle and her volunteer team for organizing the first Tom Butler Golf Tournament on August 12 at the Paradise Valley Golf Course. The nine-hole scramble, which raised almost $4,000, was followed by a barbeque dinner. This year’s tournament is scheduled for August 11.

1st ANNUAL KDB MELANOMNA WALK – Milford, MI

Congratulations to Tricia Edwards and a great team of volunteers who organized the first annual KDB Melanoma Walk. They raised over $27,000 and are planning their second annual walk on October 13.

5TH ANNUAL CRUISE IN MEMORY OF KATHY DOMIJAN – Norwich, CT

Congratulations to Jack Domijan and Barbra Domijan for their August 5 event at Don Mallon Chevrolet. The annual fundraiser, in memory of Kathleen Domijan, showcases hot rods, customs, classics, antiques and motorcycles and includes free food, a DJ, raffles and auctions, karate demonstration, and free skin cancer screening by the Backus Hospital Mobile Unit.

APRIL 2007 COMMUNITY EVENTS

April 7 1st Annual James Thomas Memorial Poker Run - Laurel, MD
April 14 Leonard E. Warren Memorial Run from the Sun - Jackson, MS
April 16 Miles for Melanoma; Karen Dolge - Boston Marathon
April 28 Gary D. Cox Memorial Golf Tournament - Rancho Mirage, CA

Results for these events will appear in the next newsletter.
Love, Lisa Garden Tea Party

What: Love, Lisa Garden Tea Party
Celebrate the launch of Too Faced’s latest bronzing palette, the “Love, Lisa Beauty Battle Box.” Inspired by founder Jarrod Blandino’s sister, Lisa Blandino, a mother battling skin cancer—42% of the net proceeds will go to the Melanoma Research Foundation!
Complimentary makeup consultations offered by Too Faced
Complimentary skincare consultations offered by Murad
Complimentary tea tasting offered by Teavana

Learn more about the Melanoma Research Foundation and its mission to the community; receive complimentary skin checks from dermatologists

When: Saturday, May 5th, 2007, 11am-5pm
Where: Sephora
Mayfair Mall
2500 North Mayfair Road
Wauwatosa, Wisconsin 53226
Visit www.sephora.com
To reserve your appointment call 414.257.9310 today!

Sponsored by:
Too Faced (www.sephora.com)
Murad (www.sephora.com)
Teavana (www.teavana.com)
Locker’s Florist (www.lockersflorist.com)

DAY SPA ASSOCIATION MEETING
MRF joined our Day Spa and International Medical Spa Association partners at the 2007 Day Spa Expo in Las Vegas in February. This is an outstanding opportunity to talk to spa owners and workers about melanoma and to gain their support of bringing awareness to their clients. It was also an opportunity for MRF to raise about $4,000 in a silent auction at the DSA’s charity reception.

MILES FOR MELANOMA UPDATE
Welcome to Kendel Paulsen and Kevin Stenstrom who are taking on a leadership role in further developing our Miles for Melanoma Program. Kevin, a melanoma survivor, has been deeply involved in the Team in Training program of the Leukemia Society. Overall, the purpose of their involvement will be the development of a growing team of marathoners and half marathoners who will run or walk in organized events and raise funds for MRF.

MRF BOARD MEETS TO DEVELOP LONG-RANGE PLAN
The MRF Board met in New York City in March at the offices of Sudley Austin LLP. The meeting venue was arranged by MRF Board member Larry Hunt. The major part of the meeting was facilitated by Dot Fuller, a strategic planning specialist, who led the Board through numerous exercises and discussions on consensus building for the creation of a long-range plans for the organization. While the meeting’s discussions are now being refined and finalized, information on MRF’s plan will be highlighted in an upcoming issue of our newsletter.

HELP SUPPORT MRF’S MISSION OF RESEARCH, EDUCATION AND ADVOCACY
Now, or at any time during the year, you can support MRF’s mission of research, education and advocacy by completing and returning this coupon. Or you could give the coupon to a friend, family member, neighbor or business associate and ask them to join you in supporting our mission. With your continuing support, and with the support of new friends and donors, we can do much more in 2007.

Name __________________________________________________________________________
Address __________________________________________________________________________
City ___________________________ State _______ Zip ______________
Email ____________________________________________________________

• Accept the enclosed donation of $ __________ to support MRF’s mission.

• This donation is in memory or in honor of the following:
  • In Memory of ________________________________________________________________
  • In Honor of _________________________________________________________________
  Occasion __________________________

Send a notification letter to:
Name __________________________________________________________________________
Address __________________________________________________________________________

• If your donation is by credit card, complete the following:
  ( ) American Express  ( ) Visa  ( ) MasterCard
Card Number ________________________________________________________________
Expiration Date _______________ Amount $ ______________
Name on Card _________________________________________________________________
Signature ________________________________________________________________

FOR INFORMATION
☐ Contact me about organizing a fundraising event or awareness activity in my community.
☐ Send me information on how to join the Miles for Melanoma Team.
☐ Send me the invitation to become at 2007 MRF Member.
☐ Let me know how I can contact Congressional representatives and encourage their support of melanoma research and education.

Send this completed form to:
Melanoma Research Foundation
170 Township Line Road, Bldg B
Hillsborough, NJ 08844
WITH THE SUMMER MONTHS COMING UP, REMEMBER OUR RECOMMENDATION.