



AzMN News

Arizona Myeloma Network
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The Newsletter for People Interested in Multiple Myeloma

From the President....

We had a great turnout for our 3rd Annual Living with Myeloma Conference on Saturday, March 29, 2009 at the Scottsdale Conference Center. Our evaluations were full of praise for our informative and enthusiastic faculty, helpful workshops, including Ask the Doctor, Caregivers, and Disparities in Cancer. For the second year, Scottsdale Conference Center provided a comfortable venue and great food. And, everyone agreed that meeting 'friends' from previous years, and making new friends and networking, added to the value of the Conference. Be sure and Save the Date for the 4th Annual Living with Myeloma Conference, Saturday, March 27th! More details in the Fall. And, be sure to look us up on YouTube to visit the Conference and hear from our speakers. Also, you can view the first session of the Myeloma Roundtable, which was held on Friday, March 27th with cancer specialists and researchers, as well as patient advocates.

Our thanks to our faculty, sponsors, and volunteers for their generous support and contributions to myeloma patients and families.

As you can see, we have a lot of exciting events coming up in the next several months. You can learn more on our website and please attend, participate, donate, and get involved!

Happy Springtime to all! --Barbara Kavanagh

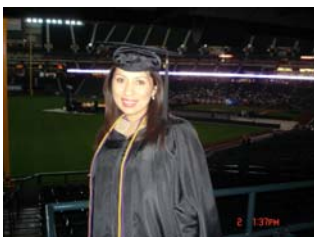
Check out our YouTube conference videos at
www.youtube.com/ArizonaMyeloma

AzMN Friends in the News

Debi and Mike Howard celebrate Easter with Barbara and Jack Kavanagh at Bobby Cee's jazz cafe where Mike is back after his successful transplant, playing guitar with his group every Sunday from 2-4pm. Come by and say 'hello'.



Congratulations Yariela! Yariela Cannone, wife of Vince Cannone, a myeloma patient, received her Master of Business Administration with emphasis in Leadership, from Grand Canyon University, with Academic Excellence and Delta Mu Delta.



THANK YOU TO OUR SPONSORS AND SUPPORTERS



Our Special thanks to our Sponsors for their generous support of our **3rd Annual Living with Myeloma Conference** March 28th, 2009. Their contributions allow AzMN to offer myeloma educational programs at no cost for our participants and help us to raise awareness about cancer and the needs of cancer patients and families.

CO-SPONSOR – Leukemia & Lymphoma Society, Desert Mountain States Chapter

PLATINUM SPONSOR – Millennium Pharmaceuticals

PLATINUM SPONSOR – Celgene Corporation

PLATINUM SPONSOR – United Association of Plumbers & Pipefitters (UA)

GOLD SPONSOR – Arizona Department of Health Services, Cancer Control Program

SILVER SPONSOR – Arizona Advisory Council on Indian Health Care

SILVER SPONSOR – Black Bear Diners

BRONZE SPONSOR – Cancer Treatment Centers of Arizona

BRONZE SPONSOR – The Binding Site

Thanks also go to all the volunteers who helped to make this the biggest and best Living With Myeloma Conference ever!

Conference faculty included:

Dr. Shauna Birdsall, Dir. Naturopathic Med at Cancer Treatment Centers of America (CTCA)

Dr. Timothy Birdsall, VP of Integrative Med at CTCA

Dr. John Carpten, TGen, Dir. of the Integrated Cancer Genomics Division

Judith Finlay, PhD, Technical Dir., The Binding Site

Fred Hubbard, Exec. Dir, Advisory Council on Indian Health Care

Barbara Kavanagh, MSW, Founder – AzMN

Terry Landowski, PhD, U of A Arizona Cancer Center

Dr. Joseph Mikhael, Consulting Hematologist, Mayo Clinic

Mechelle Morgan-Flowers, RN, Ft. Defiance Indian Hospital

Bodour Salhia, PhD, TGen

Dr. Clarence Sarkodee-Adoo, Myeloma Specialist

Videos of all the conference sessions are available on our YouTube site at www.youtube.com/ArizonaMyeloma. Conference pictures are online – [click here](#).



Bill Hite, Pres. UA and Platinum Sponsor, Bill had his transplant in Sept. at the Mayo Clinic and is doing well. He is a strong supporter of AzMN.

AzMN 2009 Calendar

July 18 – [2nd Annual Ft. Defiance Cancer Awareness & Advocacy Conference](#), Window Rock, AZ. [Click here to register.](#)

September 26 – [Glendale Tissue Donor Awareness Program](#), Glendale Community College. [Click here to register.](#)

October 18 – [Race for Hope – 5K Walk/Run at Westgate Shopping Center](#) – Scroll to October and click on registration link

November 7 – [5th Annual Arizona Myeloma Network Charity Golf Tournament](#), McCormick Ranch Golf Course, Scottsdale

Ask the Doctor



Dr. Joseph Mikhael from Mayo Clinic will have a column for the next issue of the newsletter. You can view his presentation that he gave at the Living With Myeloma Conference March 28 on YouTube by [clicking here](#). If you have questions for Dr. Mikhael, you can email him at mickael.joseph@mayo.edu or call him at 480 301 8335.

KOMEN GRANT AWARDED TO AzMN

([See Press Release on our web site](#))

The Arizona Myeloma Network was awarded a grant from the Susan G Komen Foundation to develop and implement a Dinè Breast Cancer Awareness/Prevention training program for Navajo women in the Arizona Ft. Defiance Chapter geographic area. The project is an expansion of the cancer awareness and outreach activities begun in the Ft. Defiance area in 2008. Our purpose is to increase awareness of the high incidence of breast cancer among Navajo women and the importance of securing early screenings and treatment. We also will work to dispel cultural myths and taboos and reduce institutional barriers to treatment. These outcomes will be accomplished through a culturally relevant, community-based cancer awareness education and advocacy program. AzMN and 8-10 trained local volunteers will provide education and outreach services to approximately 100 Navajo women, ages 40 to 65, during the grant year.

Becky Howard has been hired as the Project Leader, Training and Development Consultant, by AzMN for the grant, from April 2009 to April 2010. AzMN has also received a grant from the Arizona Department of Health Services Cancer Control Program to assist with the funds needed for this program.



Tram Mai of Channel 12, KPHO congratulates Barbara Kavanagh at the award luncheon for Komen Grant recipients (L). Barbara is with Becky Howard, AzMN Training and Development Consultant with her daughter Fiona (R).



The first meeting with prospective trainers and members of the Advisory Council for the Navajo Nation met at Ft. Defiance the first part of May to start plans and find interested people to participate.



First Training Candidates and Advisory Council members meet with Mechelle Morgan-Flowers, Ft. Defiance Coordinator, and Becky Howard, Project Leader.



Arizona Myeloma Network (AzMN) And John Wayne Cancer Foundation are proud to sponsor the 2nd Annual AzMN/Ft. Defiance Cancer Awareness and Advocacy Conference July 18, 2009



Audience: Cancer patients and families, health care providers, cancer advocates, outreach workers, medical and nursing students, educators, researchers, Tribal officials, and others concerned about cancer at Ft. Defiance and the Navajo Nation.



WHERE: The Navajo Nation Museum
Hwy 264 and Postal Loop Road
Window Rock, Arizona

TIME: 8:30 a.m., Registration
9:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.
4:00 p.m. – Closing Ceremony
Box Lunch will be provided

CONTACT: **Mechelle-Morgan-Flowers**, Utilization Review/Discharge Planner, 928-729-8024 (Ft. Defiance Hospital)
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Barbara Kavanagh, MSW, Founder & President, AzMN, 623-388-6837
Email: azmyelomanetwork@cox.net



FOR FURTHER DETAILS AND TO REGISTER ONLINE: www.azmyelomanetwork.org



The AzMN/Ft. Defiance Cancer Awareness and Advocacy Program, CAAP™ is a collaboration of many groups and individuals, including Ft. Defiance hospital staff and services as well as other leading cancer specialists, scientists, agencies, and hospitals. We will work together as a 'community' to improve and expand cancer services and resources, and to improve access for earlier diagnosis and new treatments.

2nd Annual Cancer Awareness Fun Ride

WHEN: SATURDAY JULY 18, 2009

TIME: 0900 HOURS= REGISTRATION & POSTING OF COLORS

0915 HOURS= SAFETY BRIEFING W/ ROUTE ANNOUNCEMENT

0930= KSU AND RETURN BY LUNCH TIME

WHERE: WINDOW ROCK- NN MUSEUM

FEE: \$15 PER BIKE/VEHICLE

As most of you know, Navajos are affected by many illnesses including cancers of all sorts - both women and men alike. We are not alone and here is a chance to learn more about the many types, the signs and symptoms as well as support groups out there willing and able to help our families. In addition to riding with us, please tell family members about this event so they (we) can network with all health personnel from far and wide that care and want to help us. For more information about the ride please call Forrest @ 928 206 6421 (cell).



AzMN is a nonprofit charity (501)(c)(3) organization that conducts outreach Events and Educational programs for Arizona Myeloma cancer patients, their families and caregivers, with special consideration for the under served: African American, Asian/Pacific, Hispanic American and Native American.