



Newsletter

The Gene Roman Family Foundation Newsletter
May 2017

Issue 26

ANOTHER GREAT EVENT!

You did it again! We're excited to report that our 15th Annual Gala Event was another incredible success.

Approximately 130 people gathered at Georgio's in Orland Park on Saturday, April 29 for a wonderful evening of delicious food, great company, fun entertainment and an amazing array of raffle prizes. We raised over \$20,000 for The Gene Roman Family Foundation, which will allow us to continue to help cancer patients who are in difficult financial situations.

The evening's entertainment was provided by Sound Sonic DJs, with dinner music featuring Peter Oprisko. Congratulations to the winners of our Dance Contest—Sandy Stanek was awarded Best Dancer and Sean Green took the prize for Best Effort. Competitors received quick dance lessons from Kristin Lux and then danced to The Swim, The Charleston, and The Mashed Potato! Needless to say, the contest provided lots of laughs for non-participants too.

Nearly 60 raffle prizes included such things as restaurant, grocery, retail, and spa gift cards, Vera Bradley products, golf greens fees, toy baskets, Chef for A Day certificate, baby items, sweets lovers baskets, a hotel overnight, tickets to sporting

baskets, a hotel overnight, tickets to sporting events, autographed sports photos, autographed books, wine baskets, two iPad minis, artwork, theater/ballet tickets, an autographed Blackhawks jersey, and much more. A list of prize donors is included in this newsletter.

Thank you to all of the volunteers who make this event possible— soliciting prizes, follow up, assembling prizes, mailings, set up, handing out prizes, selling tickets, conducting the raffle, taking photos, plus those who maintain our website, and serve on the distribution committee and the board of directors.

Most of all, thank you to all of our loyal supporters. Because of you, we can continue to do what we do. We absolutely could not do it without you.

This annual event is our major source of funding. THANK YOU to each and every one of you who believe in our mission and support us in our endeavors. If you attended our dinner, we hope you had a wonderful time and will return next year and bring your friends. If you missed it, please plan to join us next year. Watch your email for the 2018 date. If you want to be added to our email or regular mail list, please let us know.

THANK YOU TO OUR RAFFLE PRIZE DONORS

Thank you to the following businesses who so generously donated prizes to support our 2016 raffle. PLEASE utilize these businesses whenever you need any of the services or products they offer. If you need further contact information, please email us at romanfoundation@yahoo.com. We'll be happy to put you in touch.

AMC Theaters, Ambrosino's Italian Market, Arenello's Pizza, Aurelio's Pizza Frankfort, Aurelio's Pizza Mokena, Beggar's Pizza, Body Bliss Wellness Center, Body Tech Total Fitness, Bonefish Grill, Carol VanOstenburg - Calming Touch Massage, Capri Ristorante Italiano, Charles Morris Salon, Cheesecake Factory, Chicago Bears, Chicago Bulls, Chicago Children's Theater, Chicago Cubs, Chicago White Sox, Chicago Wolves, Costco, Creamery Frankfort, Dancing Marlin, Enrico's, Fox's on Wolf, Gatto's Italian Restaurant, Golden Shoes, Green Garden Country Club, Heines McCarthy's, Jenny's Southside Tap, Joffrey Ballet, Legend's Bar & Grill, Lou Malnati's Pizza, Lume's Pancake House, Mariano's Fresh Market, Chad Fox - Merrill Lynch, Nick's BBQ, Noodles & Co., Nothing Bundt Cakes, Oberweis Dairy, Patio Restaurant, Park West Gallery, Posh Salon by Nancy, Quality Inn Orland Park, SkinTrust, Sorriso Ristorante, Target Orland Park, Tin Fish Restaurant, Together We Cope, Tom Kelly's Chophouse & Pub, Trader Joe's, Up and Down Art - Kim Mylniec, Walt's Food Center, White Water Canyon.

Thank you to the following authors for donating autographed books: Dean Koontz, John Lescroart.

Thank you to the following individuals for their prize donations: Gerry & Alex Berzins, Lisa & Chris DeAngelis, Jeff Felde, Mike Feminis, Paula George, Sherry & Dennis Jones, Bob Martino, Jen & Karl Schissler, Janet & Chuck Tindall, Judy & Tom White, Lenore & Len Wiencek.

THANK YOU LET'S POLKA U.S.A. CLUB

Thank you to Let's Polka U.S.A. Club for their generous contribution, and to Bernie Locke and Theresa Bolf, Polka Club members and longtime Foundation supporters, for nominating the Foundation to receive the club's annual charitable donation. Keep dancing ladies!

THANK YOU ESSENDANT FOUNDATION

Thank you to Essendant Charitable Foundation for their generous contribution. Essendant (formerly United Stationers) has been a long-time contributor to the Foundation and we appreciate their support.



FROM OUR 2017 DINNER PROGRA

Welcome to our 15th gala event! We're happy you could join us as we celebrate the continuation of the dream of our founder, Gene Roman. When we started this foundation in 2003, we really didn't know what to expect. We just knew that we wanted to help cancer patients in crisis. We had no idea how many lives we would impact and no idea how many wonderful loyal supporters would enable us to do so. Since our inception, we've helped over 350 individuals!

So tonight, we thank YOU and we celebrate YOU—our supporters. Thank you from the bottom of our hearts. We could not do what we do without you.

Board of Directors - Gerry Berzins, Cindy Hill, Angela Isbell, Sandie Peccia, Michele Roman, Rob Slovin

IN LOVING MEMORY....

We have received donations:

In loving memory of **Gene Roman**,
from Susan & Jeff Phillips

In loving memory of **Bob Thormann**,
from Doloris & Dave Wyrobek

In loving memory of **Gene Roman**,
from Doloris & Dave Wyrobek

In loving memory of **Patricia Kotas**,
from Ron Kotas

In
memory
Zajak,
Gail &
Willich



loving
of **Gene**
from
Richard

In loving memory of **Beth Janick**
Seman, from David Seman

In loving memory of **Margaret Stuber**,
from Gerry & Alex Berzins

In loving memory of **Barry Roman**,
from Karen Roman



CHECK OUT OUR UPDATED WEBSITE

Our website has a brand new look!
Check it out at www.generoman.org. Thank
you to Joe Cannon, who set up, redesigned
and has maintained our website for many
years.

YOUR DONATIONS

Since our November newsletter, we have:

- Helped with rent and electric bill for a 57-year-old woman with colon cancer
- Helped with gas and parking for a 67-year-old woman with vaginal cancer
- Helped with car payment and rent for a 40-year-old woman with chronic myeloid leukemia
- Paid phone bill and helped with transportation costs for a young man with prostate cancer
- Paid rent for a single mom with breast and colon cancer
- Paid a gas bill for a 74-year-old woman with bladder cancer
- Helped with gas and parking costs for a 73-year-old man with throat, neck, and adrenal cancer
- Helped with mortgage payment for a 55-year-old man with brain cancer
- Helped with gas and tolls for a 64-year-old man with chondrosarcoma
- Paid a Nicor bill for a 55-year-old woman with papillary serous carcinoma of peritoneum
- Helped with rent for a 38-year-old single mom with metastatic breast cancer
- Helped with rent and utilities for a husband and wife with breast and lung cancer



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IN LOVING MEMORY
GENE ROMAN
April 23, 1947—May 18, 2004

WHO WE ARE, WHAT WE DO

This is the 26th issue of our semi-annual publication, The Gene Roman Family Foundation Newsletter. We hope you find it interesting and informative. Our goal is to keep you up-to-date on what's happening with the Foundation—what we're doing, who we're helping, and upcoming events. Your comments and suggestions are welcomed and encouraged at any time.

The Gene Roman Family Foundation is a non-profit corporation founded by Gene and Sandie Roman in 2003, shortly after Gene was diagnosed with cancer. Unfortunately, Gene passed away in May 2004, but we are proud to continue the work that was his dream – assisting people who are fighting cancer and experiencing financial hardship.

Our goal is to raise money to directly help *people* without deducting the large salaries and administrative expenses that are sometimes involved in larger organizations. We are proud to say that we have been able to help many individuals who may not have had any other source of financial assistance. We are staffed entirely by volunteers. No portion of any donation is used for salaries, nor was any portion ever used for any of Gene's expenses or treatments. Your gift to The Gene Roman Family Foundation, a 501(c)(3) corporation, is tax deductible and will allow us to continue with our goals.

In our logo, the Roman column symbolizes Gene's strong character and strength in his battle with cancer and represents the support one can find from family and friends. The bright sun symbolizes the hope that is within all of us. It also reminds us that a life threatening illness makes one appreciate everything more; the sun shines brighter; the grass is greener, etc. The rays coming off the sun symbolize the family's outreach to others.

We at the Gene Roman Family Foundation are extremely proud of the work that Gene began and that we carry on, and we are especially grateful for all of our wonderful family, friends, and supporters who so generously contribute to our goals. Thank you.