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# SHARING THE *gift*

A NEWSLETTER OF GIFT OF LIFE TRANSPLANT HOUSE VOLUME 6 | NO 4 | FALL 2007

## Gift of Life 23<sup>rd</sup> Annual Golf Tournament - Another Great Success! – *By Kim Erickson & Denise Stegall*

ONE DOESN'T OFTEN SEE A SAIL BOAT AT A GOLF TOURNAMENT. THEN AGAIN, THE GIFT OF LIFE GOLF TOURNAMENT ISN'T YOUR AVERAGE TOURNAMENT. AS THE 120 GOLFERS ARRIVED AT THE ROCHESTER GOLF & COUNTRY CLUB ON JULY 9TH THEY WERE GREETED BY THE NOW FAMOUS 20' SLOOP OWNED BY ARDELL LIEN, HEART/KIDNEY RECIPIENT, SOLO CIRCUMNAVIGATOR, AND GUEST SPEAKER AT THE 23RD ANNUAL BENEFIT GOLF TOURNAMENT.

More than a fundraiser, the annual benefit doubles as a reunion. Richard Schaeffer and Ken Busby, liver transplant recipients and former guests of the Gift of Life Transplant House said they made so many friends during their time in Rochester. Every year Richard, Ken, and their wives meet up with three other couples at the golf tournament. Incidentally, Ken was one of this year's winners.

The annual tournament attracts people from the Rochester community and from far away. Participants include past guests of Gift of Life, doctors, nurses, Gift of Life staff, board members and volunteers. They are a tight-knit group with a common goal: to spread awareness for organ and tissue donation while offering quality care for those during their transplant journey.

Staying at Gift of Life "was truly a lifesaver," said Ardell as he addressed the 250 diners post-tournament. "Not only is it a wonderful place to stay, but it provides such a network of support as everyone there is in the same difficult situation." At the golf tournament, he and his wife, Maureen, were able to see many people who shared their life-changing stay in Rochester.

Ardell's speech recounted his amazing journey from heart and kidney failure to sailing around the world a year and a half after transplant, thanks to the successful heart and kidney transplant he underwent in January of 2003 made possible through the selfless generosity of his donor family.

After his surgery, he visited people in varying stages of the transplant process. He really wanted to do something on a larger scale to bring a greater awareness of organ and tissue donation. Ardell, at the age of 70, completed a 17-month trip circumnavigating the globe and received local media attention at many of the ports. Ardell said, "I wanted to show the extent to which one can recover from a transplant."

Few would brave a trip of this sort at any age and level of health but Ardell's journey is an inspiration and a testament to the success and advancement of organ transplantation. The trip was an enormous accomplishment, and he credits the wonderful care he received at both the Mayo Clinic and the Gift of Life Transplant House for his successful transplant and recovery.

As an organization, Gift of Life Transplant House offers much more than a comfortable room to its guests; it offers support, friendship and hope to those going through the incredible process of transplantation. Barb Schroeder, Board Member and nurse on the kidney transplant unit explained. "As a name, 'the gift of life' is a lovely-sounding phrase, but is truly profound." The gift of life is so much more than words—it's being able to be a grandparent, go to a son or daughter's graduation, or in Ardell's case, being able to sail around the world to increase awareness for a cause." *continued on page 2*

### First Flight First Place Winners:

Team #11  
Scott Nyberg, Dick Wayne,  
Fergie Ferguson, Mary O'Kane  
and Kevin Campbell

### Second Flight First Place Winners:

Team #16  
Ted Botten, Mary Botten  
Joe Martini, Justin Scholville,  
Ken Busby

Silent Auction Raised: \$6950

125 Golfers

Tournament Raised: \$32,000

Longest Drive Men: Bobby Frederick

Longest Drive Women: Jean Greseth

Longest Putt Men: Darren Hooley

Longest Putt Women: Jean Buck Tipton

Closest to pin #3: Nick Pompeian

Closest to pin #5: Scott Nyberg

Closest to pin #11: Matt Smith

Closest to pin #14: Jerry Christenson



Golf Winners - 1st Flight: Fergie Ferguson, Pat Dean, Scott Nyberg, Mary O'Kane, Wayne Dick.



Golf Winners - 2nd Flight: Joe Martini, Ken Busby, Justin Scholville, Mary and Ted Botten.



Ardell Lien visits with GOL Board Members and Friends.



Volunteers Nancy Kreinbring and Kathy Monnet.



Celebrating National Hospitality House Week.

## National Hospitality House Week

July 22<sup>nd</sup> -29<sup>th</sup> was National Hospitality House Week. The mission of the National Association of Hospitality Houses (NAHHH) is to support "Homes that Heal" be more effective in their service to patients and families. Association members demonstrate their desire to exceed the highest standards in quality care and service.

Gift of Life is a prototype for new hospitality houses across the country so we were very proud to display a banner outside the house and celebrate with an ice cream social for our guests.

Gift of Life has been a member of NAHHH since 1993. Gift of Life staff and board members have been active on the national board. Sister Margeen Hoffmann served as President. Ed Pompeian; Gift of Life Founder, serves as Treasurer, and Scot Ramsey, former Gift of Life President and current board member, serves as Vice-President.



## President's Letter

Greetings to you, our Gift of Life family

I am pleased to be writing this letter as the new President at Gift of Life. Our board has a strong responsibility to you, our Gift of Life family, and we will continue to serve our mission. I joined the board in 1988 and have held the positions of secretary, vice-president, 20<sup>th</sup> anniversary chair-person, and I am a standing member of the Gift of Life golf committee. As vice president, I attended as many meetings as possible to develop a comprehensive knowledge of Gift of Life.

During my two year term, the presidential theme I will pursue is "Community Awareness, Community Presence". I am counting on you to help spread the word about Gift of Life and our mission, both here in Rochester, and wherever you may hail from.

Perhaps you know of a Foundation we might contact for funds, someone looking to make a donation to a charitable organization, or someone who might want to sponsor our "Pull a Tab for Life" program. The money we receive in exchange of the aluminum tabs supports our kitchen. If you have any thoughts or information to help bring my theme to life, please share them by sending a note to the house, attention R. Erickson.

I must share some sad news with you. Gift of Life's leader and friend, Sister Margeen Hoffman, O.S.F. died August 3, 2007 at Assisi Heights, Rochester, MN. Sister Margeen came to Gift of Life in 1991 as a six week interim employee and stayed 16 years as the executive director. Gift of Life flourished under her direction and guidance. She was instrumental in bringing Sister Jane Frances to Gift of Life as the facilities manager who reined alongside Sister Margeen during her tenure. Sister Margeen completed her mission to Gift of Life serving as director of development, the position she held at the time of her death.

Sister Margeen's family has generously supported the House with donations throughout the years. The renovation of the fireplaces from wood-burning to gas, for the enjoyment of our guests, is one example of their generosity. We extend our sympathy to Margeen's family and the Franciscan community. We will miss her but her legacy at Gift of Life will live on.

The 23<sup>rd</sup> annual Gift of Life's tournament July 9, 2007 was a success! Held in conjunction with Mayo Clinic's annual Transplant Picnic July 7, 2007, many reunions were made. Special thanks to the Volunteers and Sponsors. It was a busy weekend but a fun one. Next up is the 3<sup>rd</sup> annual A Taste for Life October 12, 2007 at the Mayo Civic Center. Food and wine to benefit Gift of Life! What could be better?

Occupancy at Gift of Life continues to be high. Even with the welcomed addition of the Founders, offering 3 additional rooms the House is usually full to capacity. Our staff and volunteers continue to support our mission. Each day our Gift of Life family welcomes another member on the transplant journey Gift of Life is a house which offers hope.

As I start my Presidential term, I want to thank you again for the continued gifts, donations, and volunteer efforts that ensure Gift of Life's ability to carry out our mission. For almost 25 years Gift of Life has been here for transplant patients and caregivers. Just as the Gift of Life family has grown so has the Gift of Life campus. Rest assured Gift of Life is here for you, OUR FAMILY.

Pace e Bene,



Roger A. Erickson, RN, CNP  
President, Gift of Life Board of Directors.

Gift of Life 23<sup>rd</sup> Annual Golf Tournament continued from page 1

Through the ongoing support of the community, former and future guests, staff and volunteers, Gift of Life Transplant House will continue to provide people with hope, support and lodging while going through the transplant journey.

Congratulations to this year's golf winners! First flight-first place winners were: Ted Botten, Mary Botten, Joe Martini, Justin Scholville, and as mentioned earlier, Ken Busby. Second flight, first place winners were: Dick Wayne, Fergie Ferguson, Mary O'Kane, Kevin Campbell, and Dr. Scott Nyberg. Incidentally, Dr. Nyberg was Ardell's kidney transplant surgeon.

In addition, Chuck Pagenhart was the winner of the \$1500 American Airlines Gift Certificate.

This year the golf tournament and silent auction raised a grand total of \$36,000 that will directly benefit Gift of Life by providing funds toward our daily operating costs. A special thanks to our golf committee and volunteers who helped make the tournament a great success.

## First Annual Kidney Walk a Success

On Sunday, July 15<sup>th</sup>, Co-Grand Marshal and "Kidney Queen", Connie Hatch, led approximately 100 people around Silver Lake Park for the First Annual Kidney Walk in Rochester, Minnesota. Connie took her role as Grand Marshal very seriously. You couldn't miss her! She was the lady wearing the hand painted T-shirt with a walking kidney on it, kidney bean earrings, and holding a walking stick with a stuffed kidney on it.

Connie, a retired RN, spent the last 10 years of her career working in the dialysis unit at Mayo the Clinic. Co-Grand Marshal, Judy Krause, a fellow retiree was one of the original dialysis nurses at the Mayo Clinic in the 1960's, joined Connie in her duties.

The National Kidney Foundation (NKF) sponsors dozens of walks each year in cities across the United States. With such a large kidney program at the Mayo Clinic, Dr. James Gregoire, a nephrologist, was determined to host a Kidney Walk here in Rochester. Working with the National Kidney Foundation and a dedicated committee of volunteers including, Connie Hatch and Judy Krause and many others, he planned and organized this first annual event.

Walkers started to arrive at Silver Lake Park by 4PM to register for the event, have a blood pressure screening, and collect education on Chronic Kidney Disease. Free chair massages were offered by the students at the Center for Massage Therapy while two handsome young singers, accompanied by their guitars, serenaded them.

The opening ceremony began at 5 pm with Dr. Gregoire thanking the walkers for their support and participation in raising \$5000. He then led the group in singing "God Bless America." After the tribute to our country, members of the local bagpipe brigade began to play. The Grand Marshals lined up behind them and everyone else followed as the walk commenced. Signs donated by the events sponsors Carroll's Corn, Custom Retaining Wall, and Venture Computers helped guide the way.

The money raised will support free kidney screening for individuals at risk of developing kidney disease. The screening date is November 8, 2007 from 3-7PM at the Rochester Senior Center. For appointments or more info call the National Kidney Foundation at 800-596-7943. Volunteers are also needed to assist participants to complete health screening questionnaires, check blood pressure, draw blood, and discuss results.

Nancy Driscoll an RN in Hypertension and Nephrology at Rochester Methodist Hospital said, "This was a great, fun event which brought together healthcare providers, kidney transplant recipients, families, kidney donors, friends, and relatives. The NKF representatives there were amazed at the turn out for the first-time event which included media coverage by two TV stations." It's also good to know that the funds raised will be used locally to detect/prevent kidney disease!"



Musical entertainment



Dr. Gregoire



Kidney Queens



Team Walkers



At the finish

**The Dash Poem**

By Linda Ellis

I read of a man who stood to speak  
 At the funeral of a friend  
 He referred to the dates on her tombstone  
 From the beginning to the end  
 He noted that first came the date of her birth  
 And spoke the following date with tears,  
 But he said what mattered most of all  
 Was the dash between those years  
 For that dash represents all the time  
 That she spent alive on earth  
 And now only those who loved her  
 Know what that little line is worth.  
 For it matters not how much we own;  
 The cars, the house, the cash,  
 What matters is how we live and love  
 And how we spend our dash.  
 So think about this long and hard  
 Are the things you'd like to change?  
 For you never know how much time left,  
 That can still be rearranged.  
 If we could just slow down enough  
 To consider what's true and real  
 And always try to understand  
 The way other people feel.  
 And be less quick to anger,  
 And show appreciation more  
 And love the people in our lives  
 Like we've never loved before.  
 If we treat each other with respect,  
 And more often wear a smile  
 Remembering that this special dash  
 Might only last a little while.  
 So, when your eulogy is being read  
 With your life's actions to rehash  
 Would you be proud of the things they say  
 About how you spent your dash?

© 1996 Linda Ellis



Sister Margeen and John Fitzpatrick, one of her past students.



Sister Margeen and Sister Jane with Tom and Mary Davie at the Sister's 16th anniversary party.



Sister Margeen, Pat Summerall and Sister Jane at the 2006 Golf Tournament.



Sister Margeen in Spring 2006.



Sister Margeen - The hostess with the mostess.



Sister Jane and Sister Margeen.



Sister Margeen speaks at the 20th anniversary celebration.



**IN MEMORIAM OF  
 SISTER MARGEEN HOFFMANN**

APRIL 25, 1936 – AUGUST 3, 2007

*The Gift of Life Transplant House has lost an important member. Sister Margeen Hoffmann, Director of Development at Gift of Life Transplant House died August 3, 2007 at Assisi Heights in Rochester.*

Sister Margeen was the Executive Director of Gift of Life from 1991 to 2007, overseeing and coordinating much of the growth that made the house what it is today. She had a vision of a “home-like environment,” right down to the colorful dining table arrangements, silk flowers and Christmas decorations.

Sister Margeen’s life was full of extraordinary achievements, accompanied by firm faith and – laughter, style, and panache. Sister Margeen was born April 25, 1936 to a farming family in Sleepy Eye, Minnesota. She entered the Sisters of St. Francis in 1954 from St. Mary’s Parish in Sleepy Eye, Minnesota, and made her vows in 1957. Thus, she became a Sister of St. Francis, the firm objective of her life, no matter what other honors or opportunities arose.

In 1968, she graduated with a degree in education from the College of St. Teresa in Winona, Minnesota. She taught intermediate grades and junior high at St. Pius X School in Rochester, as well as at schools in St. Paul, Chicago and Norfolk, Nebraska. In 1974, she received a master's degree in social planning and community organization from Boston College in Chestnut Hill, Massachusetts.

Sister Margeen's ministry included working as a consultant in social planning in Newton, Massachusetts, from 1974 to 1978, and as coordinator of Rochester Area Churches Emergency Response (RACER) from 1978 to 1979, where she organized the ecumenical response to the Rochester flood of 1978. From 1979 to 1988, she worked closely with the Ecumenical Task Force of the Niagara Frontier in Niagara Falls, New York., following the Love Canal disaster. There she helped the local community deal with the impact of chemical wastes buried in its neighborhoods. From 1989 to 1990, she worked with the Mediation Center of Niagara in Niagara, New York, as a consultant in environmental mediation. She even met Governor Mario Cuomo.

In 1991, with the encouragement of Sister Mary Eliot Crowley, Gift of Life Board Member, Sr. Margeen returned to Rochester, bringing her good friend Sister Jane Frances Gregoire, who worked with her during the sixteen years she served as executive director of Gift of Life Transplant House. During this time, she also served for two years as the president of the National Association of Hospital Hospitality Houses. In 1996, she received the Medal of Honor for Community-Wide Services from the Mayor of Rochester, and was honored for her dedicated services to the city with "Sr. Margeen Hoffmann Day" on April 25, 2002. She also served on the Resource Development Committee of the Boys & Girls Club of Rochester from 2001 to 2002.

Sister Margeen also brimmed with energy, fun, causes to take up, and challenges to meet. She had class. She loved to dress up, was a party-person who danced for dollars for the Gift of Life, and never again wore the dress in which someone said she looked old. She detested spinach, loved crab legs, and ate fried clams almost to the end.

But her class was more than external: she had learned from her parents to reach out to others who had less. She had, they say, her mothers heart and her fathers strength. Those who knew sorrow came to Sister Margeen. Guests at the Gift of Life flocked around her whenever she entered a room, feeling blessed by the power of her spirit. Her prayer for every need was the Memorare. It was humbling for her to have things done for her, and she was unfailingly kind and gentle with those who helped her; she always remembered to say Thank You.

Sister Margeen was a valiant woman who touched the lives of many. She will be missed but her spirit will live on at Gift of Life Transplant House.

By: Sister Jane Frances Gregoire, Sister Eileen Haugh and Denise Stegall

*Memorial Funds received will be used to continue the mission of Gift of Life in memory of Sister Margeen, her leadership, and dedication to our Home.*

## Transplantation for the Treatment of Diabetes Mellitus

Submitted by Patrick G. Dean, MD

Assistant Professor of Surgery; William J. von Liebig Transplant Center, Mayo Clinic



Dr. Dean

### INTRODUCTION

Diabetes mellitus is one of the most common medical conditions in the United States today, affecting nearly 21 million people (7% of the population). While many patients with diabetes can live long, happy lives, many will eventually develop complications of the disease. These complications include: heart disease (cardiovascular disease), blindness (retinopathy), nerve damage (neuropathy), and kidney damage (nephropathy).

### TYPES OF DIABETES MELLITUS

#### Type 2 Diabetes Mellitus

The most common form is Type 2 diabetes. In most cases of type 2 diabetes, the pancreas produces insulin but other cells in the body do not use it effectively. As a result, the body cannot use glucose as fuel. Some patients with type 2 diabetes are treated with special diets and weight loss, but most require some medication to control their blood glucose levels. These first type of medications usually prescribed are pills that help the body use insulin more effectively. For patients that do not achieve good results with these medications, injectable insulin is usually prescribed.

#### Type 1 Diabetes Mellitus

Type 1 diabetes (previously known as juvenile diabetes) is the less common form of the disease. In this condition, the cells in the pancreas that produce insulin are destroyed by the patient's immune system. It is not clear what triggers the body to attack these cells, but the result is that insulin production is severely decreased or absent. Patients with type 1 diabetes require insulin to live, and there are several different insulin dosing regimens. However, the most successful regimens are either intensive insulin therapy (multiple daily injections) or insulin pump therapy (a continuous infusion of insulin). However, despite reducing some of the complications of diabetes, intensive insulin therapy also increases the risk of dangerous hypoglycemic (low blood sugar) reactions.

### TRANSPLANTATION TO TREAT DIABETES MELLITUS

The most effective way to treat diabetes, especially type 1 diabetes, is to replace the cells of the pancreas that produce insulin and the other hormones involved in maintaining the body's glucose balance. Over the last 20-25 years, significant progress has been made in the techniques of transplantation for diabetes. In fact, after much early controversy surrounding the usefulness of pancreas (the whole organ) transplantation, the procedure has become the treatment of choice for select patients with diabetes mellitus. As of the end of 2004, more than 17,000 pancreas transplants had been performed in the United States. More recently, exciting results have been published showing the ability of islet transplantation to treat diabetes mellitus. Islets are groups of cells in the pancreas that produce insulin and the other hormones that control blood sugar. The following discussion will describe when these various types of transplants are performed.

### WHOLE ORGAN PANCREAS TRANSPLANTATION

Pancreas transplantation is generally performed for three types of patients with diabetes mellitus. The first group consists of patients who have diabetes and also are candidates for kidney transplantation due to kidney failure. These patients usually receive a simultaneous pancreas-kidney transplant. The second group of patients includes those that have received a kidney transplant (most commonly from a living donor) that functions well. These patients can then receive a pancreas-after-kidney transplant. The third group of potential pancreas transplant recipients includes patients that have good kidney function but experience significant, sometimes life-threatening hypoglycemic episodes. These patients receive a pancreas transplant alone. These operations are usually performed by making an incision in the middle of the abdomen and implanting the pancreas in the lower abdomen. The recipients spend an average of 1 week in the hospital and another 3-4 weeks in the outpatient clinic, where their blood chemistries and immunosuppressive medications are closely monitored.

### ISLET TRANSPLANTATION

Like pancreas transplant alone, islet transplants are generally performed for otherwise healthy diabetic patients that have severe problems with hypoglycemia. As stated above, islets are the groups of cells in the pancreas that produce insulin and other hormones that regulate blood sugar levels. For an islet transplant, a pancreas is removed from a deceased donor and is processed in a manner that separates the islets from the other cells of the pancreas. The islets are then purified and concentrated. Following this process, the islets are injected through the skin into the portal vein, which is one of the main blood vessels going into the liver. The islets then migrate into the liver tissue where they begin to produce insulin and other hormones. This procedure has fewer complications compared to pancreas transplantation and usually keeps the recipient in the hospital for 2-3 days. Like the recipients of pancreas transplants, the islet recipients are followed closely in the outpatient clinic, where the physicians pay close attention to their blood glucose levels and immunosuppressive medications.

### SUMMARY

The most reliable way to control blood glucose levels and prevent complications in patients with diabetes mellitus is to replace the cells that maintain the blood glucose balance. This can be accomplished with either a pancreas or an islet transplant. Recent improvements in these techniques as well as exciting new research should make both approaches more attractive for selected patients with diabetes mellitus. Additional information regarding diabetes in general can be found at [www.diabetes.org](http://www.diabetes.org). For further information regarding transplantation for diabetes, please go to [www.mayoclinic.com](http://www.mayoclinic.com).

### STAFF PROFILE: Sister Colleen Byron

*When you first meet her she is the sweet lady who shows you around Gift of Life. Once you get to know her you realize she is an intricate part of Gift of Life, an unvarying support, a shoulder to cry on, a pillar of strength.*

*Sister Colleen Byron grew up in scenic Waseca, Minnesota where she spent summers wading in Clear and Loon Lakes; two of Minnesota's famous 10,000 lakes, with her four brothers and two sisters. During the years in her rural surroundings she enjoyed raising chicks, turkeys and an occasional duck.*

*Colleen was an ardent member of the Bells of St. Mary's 4H Club where she was known for her famous chocolate chip cookies. She was also a cheerleader. The highlight of her high school career was the year the basketball team earned their place at the state tournament and she was right there to cheer them on!*

*Sister Colleen entered the Sisters of St Francis in 1949 and made her vows in 1952. She earned a Bachelor of Arts Degree in Education from the College of St Teresa in Winona, Minnesota and taught elementary and secondary school for twenty years in Minnesota and Portsmouth, Ohio.*

*For the next six years she held the positions of personnel director for the Sisters of St. Francis and community councilor. In 1965, Sister Colleen, a woman with drive and a yearning for knowledge, earned a Masters Degree in Education with a specialty in Spanish.*

*During the years that followed, Sister Colleen chose her work in retreat center ministry, teaching workshops in journal writing and humor. She also became a certified Spiritual Director for individuals and groups. She first ministered at the Assisi Heights Retreat Center in Rochester and later at the Holy Retreat Center in Janesville, Minnesota on lovely Lake Elysian.*

*After many years of walking by Gift of Life, Sister Colleen joined our staff in 2005 as a receptionist and tour guide. She enjoys gardening, cooking, reading, hiking, and playing bridge all with a great sense of humor and humility.*

*Working at Gift of Life is a unique experience, humbling at times. "One afternoon during the first week I worked at Gift of Life I was sitting on the porch waiting for the car to Assisi Heights. It was pouring rain and I was bemoaning that the bad weather would interrupt my evening walk. A smiling man then sat down beside me and announced, "I love the rain!" "I was resting inside when I heard the rain so I came out to hear it and to catch how good it smelled. You see, I just got my life back with my liver transplant and from now on I'm not going to miss any gifts of rain or sunshine!" "I was completely inspired and later, thoroughly enjoyed my walk."*



Sister Colleen Byron

### GIFT OF LIFE TRANSPLANT HOUSE BOARD OF DIRECTORS, STAFF, AND VOLUNTEERS

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*Pat Irrthum*

Volunteer Proofreader  
*Michael Hobberger*

## Summer Fun

By 8:30am it was already hot! Despite the heat, members of the Mayo Pharmacy Department had already arrived at Essex Park to wipe down picnic tables in preparation for the 19<sup>th</sup> annual Mayo Clinic Transplant Patient Picnic on Saturday, July 7th. For the last three years, the volunteers from the pharmacy are the first to show up and get to work. I think they are smarter than the rest of us! They are finished and gone by the time it really gets hot!

Nothing says summer fun in Rochester quite like a picnic. Just ask one of the 300 attendees at this year's festivities! Patients, families, and caregivers came from far and wide to reconnect with friends, share stories, and learn about new and exciting things happening at the Mayo Transplant Center. *Dish It Up* catered a fabulous picnic lunch while Magic Norm entertained young and old(er) alike with his slight of hand and repertoire of tricks.

Dr. Steven Peters, Medical Director for Lung Transplantation; Professor of Medicine, Division of Pulmonary and Critical Care Medicine at Mayo Rochester, threw in a few jokes of his own as he addressed the crowd. He discussed new innovations and thanked those involved in the transplant center.

Traveling all the way from Placeville, California, the patient speaker, 17 year old Lacey Wood, gave a heart warming recap of her young life. As an infant Lacey required and received a heart transplant. By the age of 16 she was in dire need of a kidney transplant. Her 19 year old brother stepped up to the plate, got tested, and became her donor. With her health now flourishing, Lacey will start college this coming fall.

Special thanks to the picnic committee and volunteers for the time and effort you give to the success of the picnic. Also, thanks to Arlene Koenig and the Pharmacy Department for donating ice cream again this year. No wonder they are always a big hit at the picnic!



*Hanging out in the shade.*



*Janice and Paul Triebwasser.*



*Angie Steen helps out at the registration table.*



*Dr. Steven Peters*



*17 year old Lacey Wood*



*Magic Norm*

## Gift of Life Transplant House receives \$10,000 Grant from the Edwin and Helen Overboe Fund of the Fargo-Moorehead Area Foundation

Gift of Life Transplant House was awarded a \$10,000 grant from the Edwin and Helen Overboe Fund of the Fargo-Moorehead Area Foundation. As requested, this generous donation was allocated to the "House" general fund which is monumental in supporting helping us to maintain the property and the grounds.

Since 1984, Gift of Life Transplant House has been a home-away-from-home for hundreds of transplant patients and their caregivers. Gift of Life offers a unique and much-needed service by providing guests with high quality, affordable accommodations in a supportive, home-like environment.

The physical and emotional challenges of transplantation can be difficult and isolating. To help overcome these challenges, Gift of Life offers guests, patients and caregivers a community in which they can learn, share, teach and connect with others confronting similar experiences.

Lynn and Joyce Overboe experienced the support and hospitality that Gift of Life provides first hand. In January 2006, they were guests at Gift of Life while Lynn underwent a stem cell harvest at the Mayo Clinic.

We are grateful to Lynn and Joyce Overboe for promoting our mission and to the Edwin and Helen Overboe Fund of the Fargo-Moorehead Area Foundation for their generous donation!

### Winter Wish List...

Each season wish list donations help us keep an inventory of the many items we use on a daily basis.

*Thank you for your donations!*

- Wrapped candy, especially chocolates
- Postage stamps (41 cents and 26 cents)
- Toilet paper, in 4-packs
- Paper towels
- Kleenex Tissues
- Mr. Clean®, toilet-bowl cleansers, and Windex®
- Crystal Lite® sugar-free, powdered lemonade mix (for our guest socials)
- Regular and decaffeinated coffee
- Pop can tabs (recycling proceeds supply kitchen needs)
- Anti-bacterial liquid hand soap/refills
- \$25 to cover a one-night stay for a family in financial need

Gift of Life's 3rd Annual "A Taste For Life" Wine and Beer Tasting – Friday, October 12, 2007

THIRD ANNUAL



THIRD ANNUAL  
*a taste for life*  
WINE AND BEER TASTING

featuring

SPECIALLY CHOSEN WINES AND BEERS  
PAIRED WITH A LITE FARE

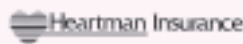
FRIDAY, OCTOBER 12TH, 2007

Mayo Civic Center Grand Ballroom, Rochester, Minnesota

6:00 p.m. to 10:00 p.m.

Reserve Tickets by October 5th

Gift of Life Transplant House thanks  
US Bank, our Gold Level Sponsor, our Silver Sponsors, and all other contributors.



Rochester • Austin • Spring Valley • Winona

CELEBRATE  
LIFE'S GOOD SPIRITS –

A TASTE FOR LIFE  
WINE AND BEER TASTING

featuring

- Over 100 select wines and beers
- A choice of 15 scrumptious appetizers and desserts
- A silent auction
- An opportunity to taste and purchase your favorite wines and beers at a discounted price – just in time for the holiday and gift-giving season!
- Tickets are \$40 each or \$360 per group of 10
- Please reserve your tickets by October 5th by contacting Gift of Life Monday - Friday from 10am - 4pm at 507-288-7470

YES, I want to contribute!

Please accept my gift of \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_

State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone \_\_\_\_\_

Located in Rochester, Minnesota, Gift of Life, Inc., is an independent, non-profit, tax-exempt Minnesota corporation independently run by a board of directors, staff, and volunteers. Contributions to Gift of Life Transplant House qualify for charitable gifts under federal law.

In Memory Of  In Honor Of

Name (Please Print) \_\_\_\_\_

Please Notify

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

GIFT OF LIFE  
TRANSPLANT HOUSE  
MISSION STATEMENT

The mission of Gift of Life Transplant House is to provide transplant patients and their caregivers with high quality, affordable accommodations in a supportive, home-like environment.

Gift of Life Transplant House is a proud member of



GIFT OF LIFE TRANSPLANT HOUSE  
705 Second Street, Southwest  
Rochester, Minnesota 55902

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