



2019 Sixth Annual BCSG Car Show

July 7, 2019 was the Sixth Annual BCSG Car Show that was held at Joppatowne Plaza, Joppa, Maryland. With the support of Sponsors such as Napa Auto of Harford County, Pep Boys of Middle River, Kona Ice, Sears at White Marsh, Jones Junction, Home Depot, Lowe's, and Timonium Auto Parts. There were over 175 entries and awards were presented for Antiques (1920-1949), Classics (1950-1970), Muscle Cars (1965-1975), Future Classics (1976-1996), Late Model (1997 -present), Motorcycles, Street Rods, Trucks (Pre 1978), Trucks (1979- Present), Jeeps, Imports, and Customs. With the help of many volunteers and our proud sponsors, this event was another complete success!

Special thanks to Brad, Larry and Linda Delbridge, the staff of the Towne Pub & Grill, and the Joppatowne Farmer's Market for all their support, as well as, Danny Jahn for his DJ services. They went above and beyond to help make this event another complete success.

This year the event will be bigger and better!! The seventh Annual Car Show is scheduled for Sunday, July 12, 2020. The rain date will be on Sunday, July 26, 2020.



29th Annual Fundraiser



**Saturday, November 2,
2019**

7:30 pm. until Midnight
Columbus Gardens
4301 Klosterman Ave
Baltimore, MD 21236

Mark your calendar and celebrate Halloween Bash Costume Party. Join us for an evening of fun, dining and dancing.

**BULL & SHRIMP ROAST
OPEN BAR
SILENT & LIVE AUCTION
BEER & PLANT WHEEL
RAFFLES**

Music by:

DAN "DYNAMO" JAHN

All proceeds benefit the Baltimore Cancer Support Group, Inc.

Tickets are \$50 per person.

**For more information, or
to reserve tickets, please
call 410-671-6828.**

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MARK YOUR CALENDAR!

December 16, 2019 - Holiday Group Celebration - 7:00 pm.
Westminster United Methodist Church,
162 East Main Street, Westminster, Maryland 21157

December 19, 2019 - Holiday Feast - 7:00 pm.
St. Peter's, 7910 Belair Road, Baltimore, Maryland 21236

November 2, 2019 – Twenty Eighth Annual Charitable Fundraiser
7:00pm– Midnight
Columbus Gardens, 4301 Klosterman Ave, Balt., MD 21236

Groups will not meet on Nov.28 (Thanksgiving holiday), and Dec. 23, through Jan. 3, 2020 (Christmas and New Year's holidays.)



A Caregiver's Perspective

I saw a Facebook post a few weeks ago that said “From the outside looking in, you can never understand it. From the inside looking out you can never explain it.” That says it all. It perfectly explains what it was

like to be a caregiver to my husband Joe, during his 19-month battle with esophageal cancer.

Short after attending my first meeting in January of 2018, I became very stingy with my Thursday nights, rarely doing anything other than attending my weekly Baltimore Cancer Support Group meeting. Walking in that room, there is an incredible feeling of acceptance and understanding. I don't have to explain - ANYTHING. Even though our individual stories are different, each one of us is “inside looking out.” We get it in a way no one else can.

These meetings were, and continue to be, my safe zone. A cancer journey, be it as a patient, survivor, caregiver or bereaved, brings out so many emotions – anger, hope, sadness, joy, guilt, fear, and at times, a very perverse sense of humor. No matter what I feel, I know that I can express myself without judgment, and with understanding, lots of understanding.

For me, one of the best aspects of this group is that it is not limited to one role; patients, survivors, caregivers and bereaved all meet as one group. When needed, we will breakout into smaller groups to address members' specific needs. But cancer is a journey, a person rarely stays in one role for the duration. As a caregiver, having the patient perspective allowed me to ask questions that were too difficult to ask my husband. and conversations with members whose loved ones had passed, gave me a tiny glimpse into what was to come. I see in some of my support group family members, a peace that comes as part of the grieving process.

I am not there yet. Joe has been gone almost four months, but it feels like yesterday and four years all at the same time. And so, I will continue to spend my Thursday nights with this amazing group of people. Taking comfort and strength from them and hopefully providing a little support to my fellow cancer support family in return.

Cris Gagliano

BCSG MEETINGS

- **Patient Groups** – Focus is on dealing with the physical and emotional challenges facing patients coping with cancer.

Westminster United Methodist Church
Monday evenings, 7:00-8:30

St. Peter's Church
Thursday evenings, 7:00- 8:30

- **Caregiver Groups** – The stresses experienced by caregivers in meeting patient's needs, as well as their own, are addressed.

Westminster United Methodist Church
Monday evenings, 7:00-8:30

St. Peter's Lutheran Church
Thursday evenings, 7:00 – 8:30

- **Bereavement Groups** – Supports those working through the grieving process.

Westminster United Methodist Church
Monday evenings, 7:00-8:30

St. Peter's Lutheran Church
Thursday evenings, 7:00 – 8:30



BCSG MEETING LOCATIONS

St. Peter's Lutheran Church
7910 Belair Rd.
Baltimore, MD 21236

Westminster United Methodist Church,
162 East Main Street
Westminster, Maryland 21157



FOR INFORMATION CALL:
410-668-1762

WEB PAGE

WWW.BALTIMORECANCER
SUPPORTGROUP.ORG

A Patient's Perspective of Cancer



Hearing the words, "you have cancer" makes your whole world STOP. Your mind, however starts with a million questions and we all know them. How, why, what, what if, etc...

My first question was can we treat this and how long do I have. Luckily for me, it was treatable, my Oncologist said it was curable, and I felt rather lucky to hear that because I was only 49 years old. All of my doctors said I have the rest of my life, but we have to get you there first!

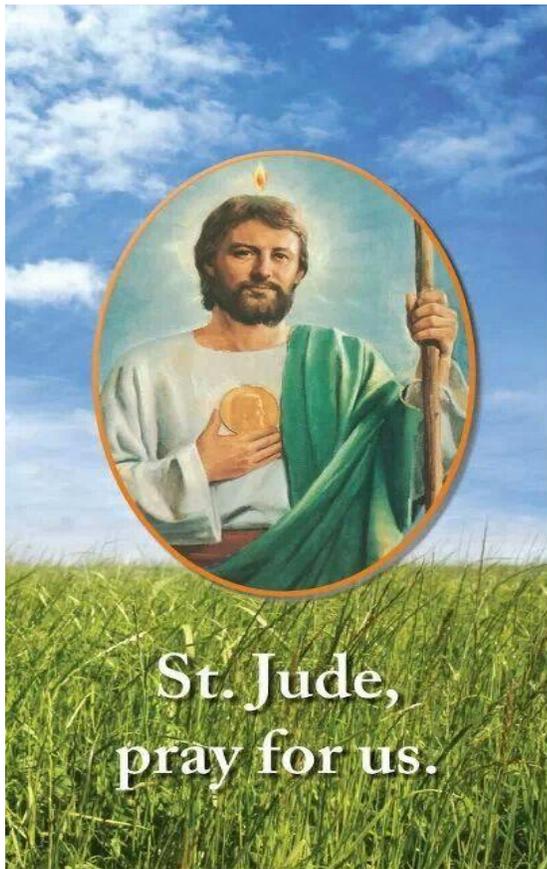
You have very little time to absorb all this before they are whisking you off to measurements for radiation, blood tests for markers, trying to explain the effects and side effects of chemo, telling you what their plan is; but for some people that don't have a family history of cancer or have been around patients with cancer, it's very hard to clear your mind enough to listen to the details. For others, they write down every word, they do their own research, go for 2nd or 3rd opinions.

I never had the time for any of that because if I didn't start treatment right away, I would have become very sick and probably died. I put my mind and body in "robot" mode and just kept showing up. Within 15 days of hearing that I had cancer, I began radiation and chemotherapy. This went on for 28 days, and it worked so well, I thought please let me have more time before I had to have surgery because I knew that my life would never be the same after the cancer was "removed". In this instance, I hate being right! For me, I wound up having 3 surgeries total, but during the 2nd surgery, they found that I had M.R.S.A. that was contained in 1 area of my belly. That had to be treated before I could do my final rounds of chemo. The treatment for M.R.S.A. was horrible. Weeks of IV antibiotics and taking Rx doses of Zinc, a pump with a 12' tube in my belly sucking out the infection, then weeks of oral antibiotics. I was finally cleared of the infection approximately 11 weeks later.

Now, onto taking my 6 months of chemotherapy. Good news (finally), my oncologist said she researched giving me the infusion therapy 6 months past my cancer removal surgery, and she couldn't find any benefit in any of the cases that showed a better outcome with chemo than without it. She gave me 3 options - take the chemo as planned, take the pill form of chemo only, (because I handled it well for the 28 days pre-surgery), or do nothing and we'd keep checking to see if the cancer came back. I opted for the 6 months of the pill form of chemo, which wasn't nearly as easy as the first round, but I completed it.

It has now been 12 years since my original diagnosis and I'm still cancer free. My life has never been the same as I don't have a good digestive system, but I'm still here and happy to help others work through this disease!!

Anita Marie Hill



St. Jude Prayer *for the* Healing of Cancer

God of healing mercy,
in Jesus your Son you stretch out
your hand in compassion, restoring
the sinner, healing the sick,
and lifting up those bowed down.
Embrace us now in your loving care,
particularly those afflicted with cancer,
for whom this intention is offered.

May the Spirit of Jesus bring us
all health in soul and body, that with
joy and thanksgiving we may praise you
for your goodness, through the same
Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen

Baltimore Cancer Support Group, Inc

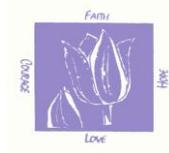
Conference Center
St. Peter's Lutheran Church
7910 Belair Rd.
Baltimore, Maryland 21236
410-668-1762

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I would like to say many thanks to all our board members, patients, caregivers, and facilitators. Without them the Baltimore Cancer Support Group could not exist. As the Director, I get the great pleasure in being a part of such a wonderful group. There are so many giving people who have touched my life through the years. It is good to be able to give back to our community and help those who are in need of support.

Geraldene Booker, Executive Director, Baltimore Cancer Support Group, Inc.