

OCTOBER 2020
DRAGON TALES
THE MONTHLY NEWSLETTER OF THE DRAGON DREAM TEAM



IMPORTANT DATES

September 30, 2020

ZOOM Social Meeting at 7:00 PM
Meeting ID: 273 098 1032
Passcode: 7jfYxX

October 6, 2020

Board/Committee Meeting
6:00 PM at Craftsmen Park

October 22, 2020

Making Strides *Tribute at Twilight*
6:30 PM – 8:30 PM
details inside

OCTOBER & NOVEMBER BIRTHDAYS

Members: If we omitted your birthday, please let us know

OCTOBER

- 4 – Cheryl Deitch
Linda Latham
- 5 – Darlene McCarty
- 12 – Chris Lutz
- 23 – Jean Zorko
- 28 – Lynn Fritz

NOVEMBER

- 3 – Mary Ann Breslin
- 4 – Pam Massoli
- 6 – Barb Marie
- 9 – Chris Ballenger
- 12 – Barbara Oakes
- 14 – Deb Merrow
- 15 – Chris Nine
- 26 – Deborah Pittak
- 28 – Judy Hoffmann



PRAYERS

*if a DDT member needs prayers or support, please contact **Deb Merrow**, Sunshine Chair*

👉 News from the Sunshine Committee

This month we are praying for Jill Schieve and Maddie Griffith. We also need to remember Kristen and Sandy who are still working at getting around. As always, we hold Deann, Tara, Deb, Barb, and Christine in our thoughts and prayers. ~ submitted by Deb M.

Remember we are all just walking each other home.

DRAGON MESSAGES

Message from Team Operations

We are planning a kayak outing in October, weather permitting. You can join us and enjoy the water, fall foliage and most importantly our sisterhood!

When: Saturday, October 10, 2020

Time: 11:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m.

Where: Old State Park (Turkeyfoot North Shore Park) located on State Park Drive off Rt.619/Turkeyfoot Road close to the Upper Deck. The road winds back to the park and you will see the park on your left.

Cost: \$10 if you rent a kayak; no cost if you bring your own. The team is again subsidizing the cost of the rentals. If you are renting, please Zelle \$10 to Kristen or bring cash or a check payable to Dragon Dream Team for \$10.

What to bring: Masks while we are on land, PDF if you are bringing your own kayak or SUP, \$10 cash or check if you did not Zelle it to Kristen, sunscreen, water to drink, something waterproof to put keys, cellphone, etc. in, and the weather will most likely be cooler so you may want to dress in layers.

All kayak renters must sign the waiver at this link: <https://killinitkayaks.com/form/>

Please email Juanita: ichap1957@att.net if you plan to attend on October 11th or if you have any questions. **Please respond by Wednesday, October 7th.** I will send another email confirming the list of members attending.

IBCPC feedback for New Zealand needed back by October 12th

Please review the email sent on September 9th so we can determine interest in participating in the March 2022 IBCPC New Zealand Festival. In the communication we shared information from MCI (tour company that we used when we went to Italy in 2018) for options should we decide to attend the IBCPC festival in 2022 and have them support us with the many logistics that will be needed. There is a link imbedded to review the packages they are offering for the 2022 festival. The hotels are in the town of Tauranga on the spectacular Bay of Plenty which offers miles of sandy beaches and in the lake region of Rotorua. Both hotels are about a one-hour drive to the race site and the route to the site takes us through some of the region's most beautiful landscape. The race packages range from \$1,559 for a 3-star hotel to \$2,010 for a 4-star hotel for 10 days and an extension after the races for \$814 (3-day) - \$1,521 (7-day). All pricing information is provided in the link. Due to the current uncertainties with COVID-19, MCI has worked with the vendors and created a payment schedule allowing reservation space for the team now while providing financial flexibility in the coming months. The deposit will be fully refundable until September 30, 2021.

We need to have an idea as to how many people are currently interested in participating knowing the cost provided in the link. Please keep in mind that we will not know airline flight costs at this time, nor will we know where things stand with COVID over the next six months to a year. We would also like to know the number of travelers (including friends and family) you would hope to bring since space is limited.

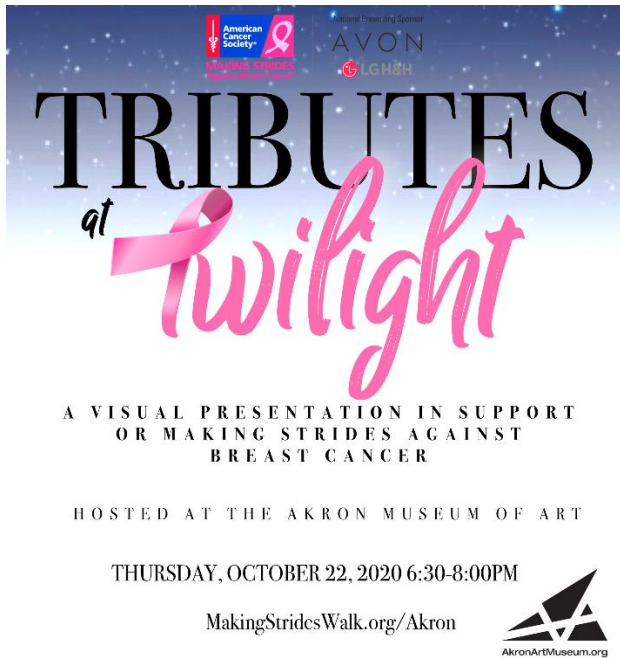


Message from Team Operations continued

Please review the email sent September 9th and send an email to Barb (foxb@gajo.com) or Juanita (jchap1957@att.net) **by October 12th** to let us know if you would like to attend knowing the cost provided in the link (plus airfare), and number of guests (guests would also have to pay for entry into the festival \$390 upon team registration). If we send a team of 26 members including drummer and steerer the cost to the team is \$10,140 – this is a large cost for the team to commit to with the current happenings today and we are trying to make the best decisions possible moving forward for the team.

Also, as a FYI the International fund currently has \$9,634 and Kristen is in the process of tallying the pasta sauce profits. Thanks ~ Barb and Juanita

Message from Public Relations Chair



The Making Strides Against Breast Cancer drive-thru on October 10th switched to a walk-through event at the Akron Museum of Art on **October 22, 2020**.

The American Cancer Society event, **TRIBUTES AT TWILIGHT**; a visual, self-guided experience at dusk will feature glowing pink and gold tribute bags honoring those affected by breast cancer; both in memory and in honor of. These bags will be featured both in the garden at the Akron Art Museum as well as virtually on the website www.makingstrideswalk.org/Akron.

To purchase a tribute bag in honor or in memory of someone affected by breast cancer, please visit https://secure.acsevents.org/site/Ecommerce?PROXY_ID=97565&PROXY_TYPE=21&FR_ID=97565&store_id=24568&fr_id=null 100% of all tribute bag donations you sell will go directly to your fundraising goal.

Please contact Amy, ahlad@zoominternet.net if you can organize a group and if you would be interested in walking through as a group. Thank you ~ Amy

Coloring Contest

A Coloring Contest for Breast Cancer Awareness Month is in the works. Please print off and color our beautiful coloring sheets from our website. The contest is open to friends and family and is for FUN – it is not the presidential election – you can submit more than one colored page, all ages can enter, and you can vote for as many as you like. Additional details to follow!

Crayons Up,
Amy

Message from Vice President

Nominations for board and committee openings officially opened September 18th. If you would like to run or nominate someone, please submit nominations by October 11th. Individual bios will need

Message from Vice President continued

written and sent to Lynn Fritz at dragondreamteamplx@gmail.com. Please note my preferred email address. Bios do not have to be long. For example, tell us why you want to run, how many years you have been on team, why you would make a good candidate - simple! I need the bios **emailed to me by October 11th**. I will then send the bios out to the team to review so they can familiarize themselves with each candidate and cast a ballot. Voting is by mail since we cannot meet in large groups. **Ballots must be returned to me by November 13th**. My address: 2665 State Street NW, Uniontown 44685. If you have any questions, please let me know or contact our past board/committee chairs to get the low down on each position! Thanks ~ Lynn

Message from Outreach Chair

Boatloads of Hope

Last year with the help of Brenda Ptak the Cancer Center at Wooster Hospital became a new member of our Boatloads of Hope outreach program. I recently received a thank you card from one of their patients which I want to share with you.

Dear Dragon Dream Team,

Thank you very much for your words of encouragement and the beautiful cashmere shawl. They are greatly appreciated during this difficult time in my life. It is nice to know I am not alone.

When I receive notes like this it is always a good reminder that our team does more than just paddle boats, we touch people's lives! ~ submitted by Judy A.

ACME Receipts: Please continue collecting ACME register receipts for the Community CASH BACK fundraiser. The team can earn 5% back from eligible purchases. This runs **August 6** through **December 26, 2020**. ~ submitted by Monica



THANK YOU!

I appreciated your cards, prayers, and wonderful comments. I am allowed to walk a bit with the boot on starting this week. I am fortunate to have my very supportive family nearby. I also have my adopted friends to keep me entertained. (Pictured below) ~ submitted by Ginny B.



Dragon Delights

The Big C

by Kathleen Messner

Cunning, Calculating, Controlling and Cold
Steeling away my hope and essence of life.

Clinical, Cynical, Callous and Cold
Filling me with grim worry and heavy strife.

Catastrophic, Contentious, Cruel and Cold
Seeking to destroy my body and soul.

Consuming, Challenging, Caustic and Cold
Creating in my heart an infinite hole.

Ceaseless, Cowardly, Contemptible and Cold
Causing me constant anxiety, uncertainty and fear.

Confusing, Choosing, Culpable and Cold
Delivering distressing news that I don't want to hear.

Common, Consumptive, Cryptic and Cold
Will I be one of the many who die?

Crafty, Complex, Cumbersome and Cold
Will I be one of the many who survive?

Cutting, Combative, Cocky and Cold
A wicked curse on humanity for sure.

Criminal, Corrupt, Cagey and Cold
Asking abundant prayers for a cure.

Crushing, Cold-hearted, Cutthroat and Cold
God, I need your courage, comfort and love.

Take control and give me peace as the dove
With life sustaining miracles sent from above.



COACHES' CORNER

About a month ago, I was privileged to listen to DJ Santiago address the Wadsworth Rotary Club. Coach Santiago was a catcher for the Cleveland Indians' and Cincinnati Reds' organizations. His story was fascinating.

Coach Santiago played baseball in high school in Cleveland. As he neared graduation, he had no plans and believed that his future would eventually lead to prison, as it did for most of his friends. After he played his last high school baseball game, a man he didn't know came up to him, asked his plans for summer ball, and gave him a card with a number to call. What did he have to lose? He ended up on a summer league team playing a tournament at Penn State, where a scout approached him, asked his college plans, and gave him another card. He ended up with multiple full scholarship offers. After college, he joined the pros. Today, he runs a successful player development program as well as serving on the Indians' coaching and scout staff.

When asked for the key elements to athletic success, Coach Santiago said there are three fundamental rules:

- Continue to show up!
 - If you're not there, you've lost.
 - Strive every day to be better than yesterday.
- Stay on the right side of the equation!
 - Never detract from the team.
 - Strive to make every situation better.
- Don't tell people your name! Tell them your story.
 - Why are you there?
 - What do you hope to achieve?

I wondered about that last rule – “Tell them your story.” And next month, I'll tell you more.

Paddles Up!
Coach Allen

Have information and photos to share?

Send to Monica Siko (msiko42@gmail.com) by the 20th of the month and it will be included in the following month's Dragon Tales, issued by the end of each month.

The Dragon Dream Team is Ohio's first group of breast cancer survivors participating in the team sport of dragon boating. Inspired by the courage of the dragon and the power of the paddle, our mission is to support and care for each other, increase self-esteem, physical and emotional wellness through paddling. The Dragon Dream Team demonstrates that life after breast cancer can be full, active and beyond all expectations. Our "Boatloads of Hope" community outreach program offers encouragement and support to breast cancer survivors and their families during the treatment phase of their cancer journey by the delivery of pashminas in area hospitals and cancer facilities, along with a powerful message of hope. The Dragon Dream Team is a 501(c)(3) organization.