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Us TOO[®]

PROSTATE CANCER EDUCATION & SUPPORT

C e n t r a l I l l i n o i s C h a p t e r

February 2007

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Our Next

Meeting:

In February, we welcome Dr. Edward Elliott as our guest speaker. Dr. Elliott is the medical director of DMH's Radiation Oncology department, and he will be talking to us in February about the plans for the new cancer center which will house both Cancer Care Specialists of Central Illinois for Medical Oncology and the DMH Radiation Oncology, Medial Imaging, Cancer Research, Complementary Medicine and Administrative services.

A press release on January 31, 2007 concerning the new facility stated that it will be located east of the Greater Decatur YMCA. Groundbreaking is scheduled to begin this summer, and construction is set to be completed by September 2008.

We look forward to having him as a guest, and hope you'll be at our February meeting to hear the exciting plans for the future of cancer care in our community!



Edward C. Elliott, M.D.,
FCAP

Next Meeting: February 27th, 4:30 p.m. **Location:** 2884 N. Monroe St.
Please enter on the north side of the Cancer Care
Specialists of Central Illinois building.

Missed a meeting?
All of our meetings are
taped and available on
VHS for our members to
borrow.

January Celebration: Honoring Dan and Shirley Moore



Dan and Shirley
Moore

"Those of you who attended our January meeting know how surprised I was to have such a fuss made over me. At the steering committee meeting the preceding week, Nikki had reported there were few reservations for the celebration of life dinner we had planned for our January meeting. As a result of that disappointing news (how can I ever believe Nikki again?), I was so surprised to walk in and see so many of my 'fellow travelers', many of whom have been 'on the road' with me for many 'miles'. Even then I didn't get it. I was also puzzled to see Karen (her last name escapes me, momentarily -- CCSCI) at the welcome table. She didn't usually join us. And Shirley was, of course, in on it, too, but didn't clue me in. With all the extravagant things said about me, it was like going to one's own memorial service. Fortunately, you were recognizing Shirley, too, since, if I do get anything worthwhile done, she's always behind it. I thank you all for making it a wonderful evening for us. A couple of people asked if I was still going to be around. I sure hope so. You just won't have my lawyer jokes to groan at anymore. It's *engineer* jokes now, with our great new leader, Bob Hermann. It's a great group of which to be a part -- since we're "qualified". - From Dan Moore

The Companions & Family Advisory panel of UsTOO national hosted one-hour, nationwide teleconference program on the topic, "Intimacy and Prostate Cancer" on Tuesday, February 13th. The panel featured Dr. Arnold Bullock, an Associate Professor of Surgery in the division of urologic surgery at Washington University School of Medicine, St. Louis, Missouri, and a specialist in treating bladder, kidney, and prostate cancer. The panel also featured two couples, Jerry and Joann Hardy and Jim and Maureen Kiefert, two of the couple featured in the *Circles of Love* Series. I received a brief review of the teleconference from our very own Bob Herman, and wanted to share his comments:

"My impression is that it was an excellent conference. All of the participants, Dr. Bullock, Jerry and JoAnn Hardy and Jim and Maureen Kiefert were frank and open about their knowledge in the case of the Doc and their experience in the case of the couples. Both couples stories are in the O's of Love book and they expanded on them verbally in the conference. The experience presented covered a wide range -- from diagnoses prior to the existence of ED drugs such as Viagra; when open discussion of prostate cancer was taboo and nerve sparing surgery was rare to diagnoses of a person in their 40's a few years ago. If I had to pick out one single message that came through the entire conference it would be -- the single most important thing for the survival of the couples intimacy is open, honest communication from the start -- trusting each other's intentions and respecting each other's feelings." - Bob Hermann

The US TOO newsletter is distributed to all newly diagnosed prostate cancer patients. For questions or to add or delete your name from our mailing list, please call (217)876-2370 or e-mail nikkid@dmhhs.org. The US TOO newsletters are also available on DMH'S website <http://www.dmhcares.com>. Click on 'Cancer Care Institute', and then click the 'Support Groups' link.



Resources

Us TOO International, Inc.
Prostate Cancer Education and Support Network
5003 Fairview Avenue
Downers Grove, IL 60515 (USA)
Phone: (630) 795-1002
Fax: (630) 795-1602
PCa Support Hotline: (800) 80-Us TOO (800-808-7866)
Web: www.ustoo.com

American Cancer Society
Phone: 1-800-ACS-2345 (1-800-227-2345)
Web: www.cancer.org

National Cancer Institute
Cancer Information Service: 1-800-4-Cancer
Write to: (1-800-422-6237)
NCI Public Inquiries Office
6116 Executive Boulevard
Room 3036A
Bethesda, MD 20892-8322
Web: www.cancer.gov

Our meetings provide a forum in which we can discuss problems and anxieties related to prostate cancer. In addition, the group serves as a resource of medical information for all participants. We strive to maintain a positive and supportive attitude, have an enjoyable time, and encourage each other as we take our walk on the prostate cancer journey. If you have a concern between meetings, seek us out for emotional support or a listening ear.

Our Services

We as a chapter are here to serve you our members, and all those in our community who are affected by prostate cancer. To that end, we wanted to remind you of the services we have available:

- Transportation for biopsy appointments for uninsured men who have elevated PSA screenings. Volunteers are always needed for this program, and mileage reimbursement is available!
- Patient Education and Resource Kit; you can request a kit by calling Nikki, Myrrh, or Bob.
- HIM—Helping Inquiring Men—This is a new program the steering committee is working on that would match volunteer prostate cancer survivors with newly diagnosed patients to share experiences and information one-on-one.