

Illinois Chapter Chat

SPRING



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TAKING STEPS TO CURE CYSTIC FIBROSIS

2009

Greater Illinois Chapter's Great Strides 2009

*Presented by J.E. Manzi &
Associates, Inc.*

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As this year's annual Great Strides season comes to a close, we look back on a challenging yet extremely rewarding time in raising funds and awareness for cystic fibrosis research.

After 13 walk sites, including Naperville on June 13, the Greater Illinois' Chicago Chapter is on target to raise an estimated \$1.6 million for vital research!

Although a little shy of our \$1.9 million goal, this is an incredible accomplishment, and we are grateful to the sponsors, team leaders, and walkers for their hard work and tireless dedication to our mission to save lives.

We would like to thank our presenting sponsor, J.E. Manzi & Associates, Inc. and our national and regional sponsors including American Airlines, Solvay Pharmaceuticals, Genentech, Gilead, Axcen Pharma, Jack Keller Co., Fuze Beverages, Larry Roesch Family Auto, Kohl's, and Community Health Charities.

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SPECIAL EVENT MANAGER: Kim Mills

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FROM THE DIRECTOR

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Spring 2009

Dear Friends and Family of the Greater Illinois Chapter:

I am pleased to have joined the Greater Illinois Chapter of the Cystic Fibrosis Foundation as executive director on Monday, June 1.

I bring to the Foundation more than ten years of experience in nonprofit leadership with notable Chicago organizations in special-event fund-raising, corporate and foundation gifts, and strategic planning, cultivation, solicitation, and stewardship of major donors.

Most recently I served as the vice president of external affairs for the Peggy Notebaert Nature Museum overseeing the development and marketing efforts for the museum. Prior to the Nature Museum, I served as vice president for the Resurrection Development Foundation and as an assistant vice president for the Children's Memorial Foundation.

Some of you may know that I had the privilege of working with the Cystic Fibrosis Foundation from 1996 to 1998, and I am looking forward to working together again to raise money to find a cure for this disease.

The Foundation is certainly lucky to count you among its friends and family, and I look forward to meeting with each of you in the near future.

Regards,

Molly A. Riley, Executive Director

Cystic Fibrosis Foundation

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...adding tomorrows every day

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Know When to Hold 'Em

The Cystic Fibrosis Foundation's Casino Chicago featuring the 5th Annual Texas Hold 'Em Poker Tournament presented by Horseshoe Casino and Larry Roesch Family Auto Group was a terrific event and raised almost \$300,000 for vital CF research.

Held on April 4 at the Marriott Chicago Downtown Magnificent Mile Hotel, guests enjoyed Blackjack, Craps, Roulette, and a Texas Hold 'Em Poker, with the Grand Prize winner getting a seat in the World Series of Poker in Las Vegas!

The evening also featured cocktails, heavy hors d'oeuvres, live piano by Mike Stoinsky of the Redhead Piano Bar, and a live and silent auction.



Returning champ and former Chicago Bear Jerry Azumah was in attendance, as was film critic and editorial columnist Richard Roeper.

A very special thank you to the Casino Chicago Committee and our main benefactors, Horseshoe Casino and Larry Roesch Family Auto.

To see pictures from this year's event and past, see www.cfholdem.com.

** Pictured: Dan Roesch, event chair; Chris Walsh, event chair; Dylan Roesch, CF patient; Michael Lewis, event's grand-prize winner; and Mike Balkin, event chair*

In Pursuit of Trivia



In this time of economic hardship, the CF Foundation's incredible volunteers have been instrumental in finding new and exciting ways to fund-raise and reach out to new people.

This past spring has been no exception with the incredibly successful inaugural King of Trivia event. Held at the Lodge in Lisle, the sold-out, first annual King of Trivia event was a great evening, featuring food, fun, prizes, and live music.

More than 200 people joined the festivities and helped raise almost \$20,000 for vital CF research! The Foundation would like to thank Kevin Harte and his committee for creating and executing such a wonderful event.

** Pictured: The King of Trivia committee*

Digging for Diamonds

On January 30 the Grand Chefs Gala, a fundraiser for the Cystic Fibrosis Foundation that took place at the Fairmont Chicago, tuxedo- and gown-wearing guests pulled marinated carrots out of a tub of soil. The unusual fare was one of more than 30 hors d'oeuvres on offer during the evening's two-hour-long cocktail reception, which featured tasting stations from a slew of local eateries—including Avenues at the Peninsula Hotel, from whence the carrots came.

If guests wanted champagne to go along with those hors d'oeuvres, they had to enter a "Sipping for Diamonds" raffle. By purchasing a painted champagne flute for \$100, gala attendees were entitled to endless refills of Perrier Jouet bubbly throughout the evening; the fee also put them in the running to win a one-carat diamond, which was hidden in a small red bag tied to the base of one of the flutes. (The rest of the glasses came with identical bags that contained Cubic-Zirconia studs.) Amy Giraldo, the foundation's Associate Executive Director, oversaw planning efforts for the gala and said that the evening's theme, "Vivid: Color, Cut, Clarity, Cure," helped inspire the diamond-centric raffle.

Along with jewel-bearing champagne flutes, the evening's raffle tickets took the form of

long-stemmed roses. A volunteer from the Cystic Fibrosis Foundation circulated the cocktail reception with a basket that contained exactly 65 flowers, which, according to the gala's program, was inspired by the story of a four-year-old cystic fibrosis patient who thought his disease was called "65 roses." Purchasing one of the numbered flowers made guests eligible to win a trip on American Airlines.

During the three-course meal that followed the cocktail reception, fund-raising efforts continued with a live auction that featured prizes such as tickets to an Aretha Franklin concert at the Horseshoe Casino. A segment of the auction also allowed guests to donate directly to the Cystic Fibrosis Foundation. To introduce that portion of the evening, three speakers took to the stage to talk about living with Cystic Fibrosis. The stories left guests in tears—glasses came off and tissues were yanked out at seemingly every table—and that part of the auction pulled in \$110,000.

The gala ultimately raised more than \$500,000.

—Jenny Berg

* **Pictured:** *Cidney, Randell, and Jeff Golman—this year's Chefs family honorees; this piece was previously printed on BizBash Chicago.com.*

UPCOMING EVENTS

June:

13 - GREAT STRIDES, NAPERVILLE: It's not too late for Great Strides. Sign up for the Naperville walk today! (Riverwalk, Grand Pavilion, Naperville)

25 - CF DAY AT KIEHL'S: At Kiehl's Lincoln Park location, customers get 10% off from 7 to 9 p.m.—plus, 10% of all proceeds go to the CF Foundation. Wine and light hors d'oeuvres will be provided for your shopping pleasure. (Kiehl's, Lincoln Park, Chicago)

August:

17 - SIXTY-FIVE ROSES GOLF CLASSIC: Grab your clubs and your evening gown for a day of golf followed by dinner and a silent and live auction. (Green Acres Country Club, Northbrook)

30 - TEAM CF, CHICAGO TRIATHLON: Run, swim, and bike with Team CF. Ninety cents of every dollar collected helps fund research for a cure! (Downtown Chicago)

October:

2 - 2009 FESTIVE-ALE: Taste hand-crafted, high-end, local beers and enjoy unlimited apps, accompanied by a live band! (Half Acre Beer Company, Chicago)

3 - UNCORK THE CURE, LAKE FOREST: Come join the Viti and Van Vleet Families of Lake Forest for an evening of wine and fun as they raise funds for CF! (The Lake Forest Club)

9 - BREATH OF LIFE GALA, PRESENTED BY J.E. MANZI & ASSOCIATES, INC.: To honor the Gillian Family, join the Foundation for an evening of cocktails, premium auction items, a sit-down dinner, and a live jazz trio. (Ritz Carlton Water Tower Hotel, Chicago)

11 - TEAM CF, BANK OF AMERICA CHICAGO MARATHON: Train with Team CF for the 26.2-mile race through downtown Chicago. Ninety cents of every dollar collected helps fund research for a cure! (Grant Park)

22 - UNCORK THE CURE, CHICAGO: Sample wines and hors d'oeuvres made by local chefs. (Chicago History Museum)