

**DTC GALA COMMITTEE MEETING REVIEW**  
**SUNDAY JUNE 8, 2008**  
**at the home of Marlene Marcus Bacher, Weston, CT**

In attendance: Nancy Anderson-Smith, Marlene Marcus Bacher, Maureen David, Jacques Dickinson, Sue Frankenbach, Marie Green, Wendy Long, Arlene Schwartz

Our thanks to Marlene, who provided a delicious brunch for us to enjoy in her lovely home during our meeting.

The **Save the Dates** were delivered May 20. Each committee member received a batch to send to their friends, family and associates during the last week of May. Sue asked for names and addresses of those mailed so her mailing list can be updated and corrected against duplicate mailings etc. The **Save the Date** provides an opportunity for committee members and guests to be listed on the invitation under various levels of support. This type of recognition is important!

We currently have five tables committed! Sue will be contacting each committee member to finalize additional commitments.

Christine DiGuiseppi is finalizing the invitation design – these should be in-hand before the end of June. You can have your invitations right away, or Sue proposed a group “addressing” get-together in early July so each invitation would be hand-addressed and include a personal note. Each committee member’s mailing list will be coordinated with the master list to eliminate duplicate mailings – your assistance in getting your lists to Sue will ensure this is managed properly! Ten weeks to the Gala means posting the invitations week of July 7<sup>th</sup>.

Jacques spoke about the Silent Auction and shared some excellent ideas on other auctions and popular items. The committee began to brain-storm and came up with other popular items based on their experiences. Jacques mentioned that the Norwalk Maritime Aquarium annually holds a silent auction, and the most popular (and highest-grossing) item is Family of the Year – a museum membership for a family that includes fun recognition, including a reserved parking place. Sue offered to go after the Yale museums for a similar annual membership (couldn’t promise parking!). Sue and her colleagues at the Yale Cancer Center are bringing in gift certificates to several New Haven restaurants, and are also expecting to get tickets to Yale Rep, Yale Opera, etc, as well as tickets to Bulldog football, basketball and hockey games.

All were encouraged to continue to solicit their local merchants – our experience is that most people who you do business with are happy to contribute. Additional solicitation packets were handed out, and a script to help folks get started on the ask is included in this document at the end. **So, in the next 60 days – lock in your donations! Donor names are needed for the event journal printing by July 31!**

**Partial** list of what we have to-date:

- Foursome at Grassy Hill Country Club (Nancy Anderson-Smith)
- The Carlyle Hotel – NYC - Two nights (JoAnn Bilyard/Marie Green)
- Barefoot Contessa Cookbook (Marie Green)
- Twenty-five, three-month memberships to New York Health & Racquet Club (YCC)
- Birches Bar and Grill – Mohegan Sun – dinner for two (YCC)
- Peter Coppola Salon/Spa \$300 gift certificate (Maureen David)
- Ibiza – New Haven - dinner for four (YCC)
- Yale Music, Theater, Sports tickets (YCC)
- Yale Golf Course (YCC)

## IMPORTANT DEADLINES

- New names/addresses to add to mailing list for invitation **June 30**
- Mail Gala Invitations week of **July 7** (10 weeks prior to Gala)  
Get together at 157 Church to hand address/personalize/stamp – date/time to be established
- Silent Auction donors/sponsors committed by **July 31** for inclusion in the Journal

## UPDATES SINCE SUNDAY JUNE 8

WTNH Channel 8's Jocelyn Maminta interviewed Dr. Peter Schwartz and Stephanie Ercegovic about the **Discovery to Cure** program. The interview was broadcast Tuesday June 10. The link to the interview is:

[http://www.wtnh.com/Global/story.asp?S=8459642&nav=menu29\\_6](http://www.wtnh.com/Global/story.asp?S=8459642&nav=menu29_6)

Sue will have DVDs made of this for anyone who would like a copy.

Sue went to hear FLAMINGO, the 14-piece all-women swing band up in Willimantic on Sunday June 8. She reports that they were excellent – and thinks they will be a wonderful addition to the Gala.

### ***Suggested script for either telephone solicitation or personal visit for a Silent Auction donation:***

I am a volunteer on the Discovery to Cure Gala Committee. Discovery to Cure is a unique clinical and research program at Yale committed to early detection and successful treatment of women's reproductive cancers. (You can say if you are a survivor if you wish, and/or if you are a patient of the doctors in the program). The committee is organizing the annual Discovery to Cure Gala, coming up in September. **This is our most important fundraising event of the year**, and all net proceeds benefit this ground-breaking program. The Gala includes a highly popular Silent Auction which raises significant funds for research. Would you consider contributing XXX\* to help support this important program? All donations are tax-deductible – you will receive a receipt indicating your gift to the program for tax purposes.

Remember to thank them (even if they say no)!

\*consider making a suggestion based on what you know about the shop/service.

- Memberships
- Gift certificates for items or services
- Tickets to sport events/performances
- Travel/lodging
- Jewelry

Be cautious about accepting anything on consignment – but if you think an offer is worth considering, contact Sue to discuss. 203-436-8544