



# Focus on IBC

March 2008

## IBC Research Foundation Newsletter

*NBCC Annual  
Advocacy Training  
Conference*

*April 26-29, 2008*

It's time to register for the National Breast Cancer Coalition/Fund 2008 Annual Advocacy Training Conference to be held in Washington DC, April 26-29.

[Click here to register.](#)

### *Join Us for Dinner!*

Once again this year there will be an ibcRF dinner gathering in Washington, DC on Saturday, April 26<sup>th</sup>. Anyone in the DC metro or surrounding area is invited to join those of us already in town for the

### The Amelia Project

Giving Wings to Research

Once again this year representatives from the Inflammatory Breast Cancer Research Foundation attended the Amelia Project meeting, February 2nd, in Indianapolis, Indiana. Ginny Mason, Executive Director, and Gayla Little, Board Member, spent the day in the company of clinicians, researchers and advocates focusing on breast cancer research news.

The Amelia Project is an annual event held on the campus of IUPUI (Indiana University, Purdue University, Indianapolis.) Dr. George W. Sledge, Jr., Ballve-Lantero Professor of Medicine at Indiana University serves as the Chair and Moderator of the meeting. It is our good fortune to have Dr. Sledge serving on the Medical Advisory Board of the IBC Research Foundation.

Presentations during the day ranged from the complex, "Intimate But Complex Relationship Between Estrogen Receptor and AKT: A Genomic Perspective" by Hari Nakshatri, PhD and "BioMEMS and Bionanotechnology for Biology and Medicine" by Rashid Bashir, Ph.D. to more easily understood presentations on metastasis, by Dr. Susan Clare and a contemplative closing piece by Chair, Dr. Sledge.

Of particular interest to those of us from the ibcRF was "Biospecimens and Breast Cancer Research: Program and Challenges" by Rulla Tamimi, ScD, Harvard School of Public Health. She spoke about the Nurses Health Studies and how they have been able to obtain blood and tissue samples from those who developed breast cancer. Only limited work has been done with those specimens to date. For us, it was important to learn more about how and what they collected,

NBCCF Advocacy  
Training Conference.

We've made reservations at a restaurant not far from the Renaissance Hotel, where many of us will already be staying for the NBCCF Advocacy Training Conference.

**Chinatown Garden**  
618 H Street  
Washington DC  
(202) 737-8887

Cost of the meal: \$25 per person; includes tax & tip (does not include alcohol)  
Time: 6:30 PM

If your schedule permits, join us for an evening of sharing, networking, and good food. I'll have BioBank consent packets along for those who may not have signed-up yet and we will give an update on the BioBank project and talk about other happenings in the ibcRF community.

Please RSVP no later than April 18th to Laurie Isenman if you plan to attend:

[Laurie@ibcresearch.org](mailto:Laurie@ibcresearch.org)

### *Upcoming Events*

**April 4-5** Eight  
Annual New Strategies in  
Breast Cancer,  
Philadelphia PA

since we are involved in biospecimens collection (the IBC Research Foundation BioBank and Clinical Database.) Over lunch, Gayla and I were able to talk with Ms. Tamimi about her work. She wanted to know more about our BioBank and how we enroll patients.

An important part of the Amelia Project meeting is the poster session, following lunch. Participants are invited to submit an abstract months before the meeting, and a committee determines which abstracts should be developed into posters for presentation at the meeting. One poster in particular caught our attention. A research nurse had studied 'chemo-brain' and had developed some hypothesis about the problem. If she is able to obtain funding, she will continue the research by enrolling patients into a trial to obtain more data to better understand this problem and look at ways to improve cognitive function for breast cancer patients experiencing this problem. Hopefully, we will hear from this researcher that she has obtained funding and can continue her work on this troubling issue.

Another poster, presented by a graduate student in the Skaar lab, was on the topic of chronic inflammation and the potential role in carcinogenesis. I have begun working with this student to provide advocate input, as she has been preparing grant requests to fund her pre-doctoral work. Her work on the role of CYP2D6 in the metabolism of Tamoxifen will provide the foundation for her future work. This is important research that will ultimately impact the decision of using Tamoxifen for a given patient by predicting the potential response. More research is needed, but the data is already quite compelling.

The Amelia Project provides the opportunity for a dedicated group of clinicians, researchers, students and advocates to network, learn and share ideas in a relaxed atmosphere. While at Indiana University we were able to connect with both Dr. George Sledge and Dr. Sunil Badve of our Medical Advisory Board and provide updates on our BioBank project and other ibcRF activities. Of course, we handed out a number of brochures and made sure those in attendance learned about IBC!

We look forward to participating in the Amelia Project in 2009 and the relationships that continue to develop through this unique meeting.

*Ginny Mason*  
Executive Director, ibcRF

[Click here.](#)

**April 12-16** American Association for Cancer Research (AACR) Annual Meeting San Diego, CA

[Click here.](#)

**April 26-29** NBCC Annual Advocacy Training Conference, Washington, DC

[Click here.](#)

*Quick Links  
for IBC  
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and  
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1-877-786-7422

[www.ibcresearch.org](http://www.ibcresearch.org)  
email: [info@ibcresearch.org](mailto:info@ibcresearch.org)

## *Lets Go Shopping!*

As you know, iBCRF is not involved in fundraising or soliciting. It is through the generous support of the iBCRF community that we are able to keep doing what we do.

Recently, through the efforts of two members of the iBCRF community, we were introduced to two ways that individuals can contribute to iBCRF through their on-line shopping.

1. Good Search: [www.goodsearch.com](http://www.goodsearch.com) Use this web search engine for your on-line exploring and iBCRF will receive one cent per search. It doesn't sound like much; but if you do much Internet searching, it adds up!

2. Good Shop: [www.goodshop.com](http://www.goodshop.com) Go to this website, click on the store's logo and then shop as you normally would. No username or password is required. Donations average around 3% but can go as high as 37%.

2. iGive.com: [www.igive.com](http://www.igive.com) This is another on-line shopping site where a donation is made to iBCRF with purchases. The donation amount varies by store. You do have to join (it's free) to use the site and make donations.

The folks who signed up iBCRF for these programs believe that these sites are easy ways to help iBCRF when you are using your computer for your everyday searches and shopping.

Remember, we're not trying to twist your arm to donate. We are also not advertising for these Internet sites. We are just letting you know that iBCRF is registered with these websites so that if you choose to use them, iBCRF will benefit!

As always, we could not do this alone. We thank you for your continued support.