



September & October Edition

This edition hopes to initiate coverage of the active prostate cancer support groups within Maine. A diligent effort was made to contact everyone listed on the Maine Coalition web site to solicit input to this newsletter. If you have any suggestions for how this communication can be most effective for the men and their families in your area please contact Terry Kungel, tkungel@hughes.net or by phone, 207-443-4300 and 617-449-8522.

September Awareness Month

Larry King Live, CNN, kicked off Prostate Cancer Awareness August 21 with an hour-long show devoted to prostate cancer. Guests included Colin Powell, John McEnroe and Joe Torre who spoke frankly about the challenges of prostate cancer and the importance of men getting screened for this disease.

Governor Baldacci will soon issue his proclamation declaring September, Prostate Cancer Awareness Month. During this month we always hope to get letters to the editor printed in the newspapers. Community newspapers like to print stories, letters and releases that have to do with local people and issues. So, we are hoping you might encourage members of your group to write. If you do write, please make it personal. Tell why having your PSA test was valuable for you or how your support group is helpful and relate any story about prostate cancer that might be of area interest. Please contact Sandy Jaeger mainenu@gmail.com or 207 371 2740 if you have any questions.

During September, Time Warner Cable and other cable stations throughout the state will be showing a half-hour panel show featuring Coalition Chair Mona Ervin as moderator with Support Group Leaders Nelson Leavitt (MCFPC President), Jon Henry (MCFPC Director) and Michael Todd (MCFPC Advisor) as panel members. The show is entitled "Prostate Cancer; What Men & Women Need to Know". It was recorded last week at

Time Warner. This program is geared toward raising awareness of the importance of PSA/DRE screening once men reach age 40 and it addresses the value of Support Groups. Please check your local cable listings for the times in your area. We believe it will be shown every Monday at 6:30 p.m., Thursday at 7:30 a.m., and Sunday at 8:30 p.m.

Calendar of Events

2 September

The Bangor Area Prostate Cancer Support Group will be meeting 6:00 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. in the Brown Conference Room, Eastern Maine Medical Center 489 State Street, Bangor, ME 04402. Jon Henry is seeking someone to assist him in serving this community.

8 September

The South Portland Area Prostate Cancer Support Group will be meeting 6:30 p.m. to 8:30 p.m. at the Cancer Community Center, 778 Main Street, South Portland, ME 04106. This is their annual anniversary celebration and includes a potluck supper and auction. It is a chance for good friends to enjoy each other's company in a non-meeting environment. It is also a great opportunity for new men to consider joining.

10 September

The Ellsworth and Hancock County Area Prostate Cancer Support Group will be meeting 5:00 p.m. to 6:30 p.m. at the Beth C. Wright Cancer Resource Center, 3 High Street Ellsworth, ME 04605.

11 September

The Lewiston and Androscoggin County Area Prostate Cancer Support Group will be holding free prostate cancer screening at Central Maine Medical Center, 12 High Street, Suite 205 from 12:45 p.m. to 4:00 pm with Dr. Parker and Dr. Mailhot. The physicians are with CMMC Urology. There will be a free PSA blood test and digital rectal exam along with a short questionnaire relating to urinary symptoms. This event is sponsored by the Patrick Dempsey Center for Cancer Hope & Healing, which is located at the Central Maine Medical Center, and by the Maine Coalition.

11-12 September

The Maine Coalition will have a representative attend the Prostate Cancer Research Institute Conference held in Los Angeles, CA. This conference focuses on new research developments, clinical trials, and how quality of life issues can be best addressed.

12 September

The Maine Medical Center will be holding free prostate exams and prostate-specific antigen blood tests from 8:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. at the Maine Medical Center Scarborough Surgery Center, 84 Campus Drive, Scarborough, ME. Educational information will also be provided. The target audience is men who are uninsured or under-insured. Please call 885-8536 or go to www.mmc.org since pre-registration is required as space is limited.

15 September

Brunswick Area Prostate Cancer Support Group will be meeting 6:30 p.m. to 8:30 p.m. at Mid Coast Hospital - Medical Office Building, 123 Medical Center Drive, Brunswick, ME 04011. The group will welcome Dr. Telsey, an urologist that just joined Mid Coast Hospital, and he will provide brief remarks.

28 September

The Island Falls Area Prostate Cancer Support Group will be meeting 7:00 p.m. at the Fairpoint Communications office, Island Falls, ME.

29 September

The Augusta and Kennebec County Area Prostate Cancer Support Group will be meeting 6:00 p.m. in conference rooms 1, 2, 3, Maine General Medical Center, 6 E. Chestnut Street, Augusta, ME 04330.

30 September

The Lewiston and Androscoggin County Area Prostate Cancer Support Group will be meeting 6:00 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. at Central Maine Medical Center, 12 High Street, Lewiston, ME.

3-4 October

The Blue Ribbon Leadership Training will be held at the Fireside Inn and Suites, Auburn, ME. Thanks to the generosity of the Maine Cancer Foundation and the fundraising efforts of the Maine Coalition to Fight Prostate Cancer, this is an all expenses covered two-day retreat to learn about prostate cancer support groups, formation and facilitation, and issues surrounding prostate cancer awareness, detection, treatment and advocacy. Space is limited so please contact Nelson Leavitt as soon as possible, nleavittassoc@netzero.net or call (207) 623-5375. The forms can be downloaded from the web site <http://www.mcfpc.org> There will be another session held 7-8 November, Best Western Black Bear Inn, Orono, ME.

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Blue Ribbon Leadership Conference

The "Blue Ribbon Leadership Training" has been designed to help build and reinforce a community of leaders across Maine who can join in the MCFPC fight against prostate cancer. The training is being presented in two-day retreats. It will target development of

men and women who can bring prostate cancer awareness to focus in their own communities. This leadership may take any or all of these forms: leading a support group, speaking before the public, distributing information or statistics to the public, or prompting discussions among the trained leader and friends and acquaintances. These sessions will build community in which members can gain the knowledge and ongoing assistance of the persons who attend and those who are already involved in MCFPC. We at MCFPC see this activity of growing team member participants as a real opportunity to expand our organization at the same time we extend our ability to connect with the many men in Maine battling prostate cancer.

Web Sites

There is a wealth of information at www.mcfpc.org and www.ustoo.org and www.prostatecancerfoundation.org and we can always be reached by email, tkungel@hughes.net or phone, 207-443-4300. Let us know how we can help you and your loved ones!