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special thanks...

Volunteers and donors are the backbone of our Foundation. It is because of the time, products and funds the community donates to our cause that we are able to work towards achieving our mission. VABC would like to specially thank the volunteers above for their service to our Foundation. We would not be able to create change in the world of brain cancer without you. *If you are interested in becoming a volunteer for VABC, please contact Ken Grosso at 646.278.6737.*



Guests enjoy the second annual fundraising event, *Sounding Off For A Cure*, at the Hammerstein Ballroom in New York City.

Event Committee

Chairpersons: Brian Jacoby and Paige Norton

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	Lauren Scher	

Right:
 VABC Event Committee chairperson and volunteer in the spotlight, Paige Norton (center), with friends.
 Bottom:
 Pictured from left, VABC Board member Evan Silverman with his father, Robert Silverman, who is a brain cancer survivor, with family and friends.



volunteer in the spotlight

– Paige Norton

We are pleased to present this month's Volunteer in the Spotlight, **Paige Norton**. Paige has played a pivotal role in the success of VABC through her participation on the Event Committee. VABC had a chance to catch up with Paige this month and she filled us in, below, on her experiences with VABC and more.

When I found out about VABC I immediately felt a great affinity to its mission to find a cure for brain cancer by advancing scientific research, increasing awareness within the medical community and supporting patients and families afflicted with this devastating disease. A mutual friend of the Lichtenstein's invited me to the first annual fundraising event, **Sounding Off For A Cure**, and I knew that I wanted to get involved.

I have a personal connection to VABC because five years ago I lost my fiancé, **Peter Philbrick**, to a brain tumor, just three days after his 38th birthday. Before his tumor, Pete was a competitive marathoner with a quick wit, huge smile and tremendous drive and mental toughness. During most of his two-year illness his sense of humor and optimism remained strong, but multiplying physical impairments and changes in the mental and emotional functioning of his brain showed me what a uniquely cruel disease brain cancer can be. Participation in VABC is a way to for me to help keep Pete's memory alive while helping reduce the number of people who will have to experience what we and the rest of his loved ones went through.

Throughout Pete's illness we fortunately had access to a large number of resources in Boston, where we lived. Through local support groups we befriended a number of other brain tumor patients and their families who helped us immensely by sharing information and empathy. When I moved to New York a few years ago I was surprised to learn that a lot of the resources we had relied on weren't as readily available in the New York area. VABC is developing and funding some of those resources, in addition to supporting the search for a cure right now.

I co-chaired this year's *Sounding Off For A Cure* Event Committee and have pursued a few additional potential sources of funding for the Foundation since I began volunteering for VABC. My best experience, so far, has been when I walked into this year's fundraising event at the Hammerstein Ballroom. I was so impressed by how much support had been generated for such an important cause and by such a young group. The Lichtenstein family and friends; **Powered by Professionals**; and all of the volunteers, donors and attendees brought something amazing to life that night.

On a personal note, I am 36 and have an MBA from the **University of Michigan** and a BS in Mechanical Engineering. I recently started a new job as Program Manager in **Citi Card's** Customer Engagement group and prior to this worked for **American Express** in New York, and **Digitas** and **Accenture** in Boston. I enjoy running, hiking and spending time on the water.

Looking forward to my future with VABC, I certainly want to stay involved with the fundraising events and would like to help grow our fundraising efforts through other means that we are currently researching. I also enjoyed being involved in the Raise Your Voice Program patient/family resource guide, and would welcome the opportunity to stay more in touch with patients and their families going forward.

If you are interested in volunteering for VABC, please contact Ken Grosso at 646.278.6737 to get involved.

Voices Against Brain Cancer
 c/o Powered by Professionals
 1375 Broadway, 3rd Floor
 New York, NY 10018



VOICES
 AGAINST BRAIN CANCER

Fall Newsletter
 2007

www.voicesagainstbraincancer.org

message from the founders



Founders of Voices Against Brain Cancer, the Lichtenstein Family, from left, Eric, Mario, Dora and Adam.

Dear Family and Friends,

We would like to thank everyone that has contributed to the success of **Voices Against Brain Cancer (VABC)** since its inception in 2004. We have been making great strides towards achieving our mission in the past few years and it is because of the support of our family, friends, volunteers and sponsors that VABC has grown into a valuable organization for the brain cancer community.

VABC is proud to have produced many exciting events this year. On June 7, 2007 we held our second annual fundraising event, **Sounding Off For A Cure**, at the **Hammerstein Ballroom** and it truly exceeded our expectations. A great time was had by all and VABC was able to raise over \$300,000 for research and support programs in brain cancer. VABC also hosted an event in Chicago for its new Chicago Chapter on September 27, 2007 and sponsored **The Great Pumpkin Walk** with the **Children's Brain Tumor Foundation (CBTF)** in New York City on October 27, 2007.

VABC's initiatives are moving swiftly ahead. In the world of research programs, we have exciting programs being implemented at **Columbia University's New York-Presbyterian Hospital Brain Tumor Center** and **Northwestern University**. In the world of support programs, VABC created the **Raise Your Voice Program** to support patients and families who are touched by brain cancer and has also begun production on a film chronicling the lives of people coping with brain cancer.

All of these efforts are made in the remembrance of **Gary Lichtenstein** and all other people touched by brain cancer. It is our hope that the work of this Foundation can continue the legacy of courage, persistence and determination shown by those of whom the Foundation was created in memory.

Sincerely,

The Lichtenstein Family

VOICES
AGAINST BRAIN CANCER

event spotlight

We would like to thank everyone who attended our first event in Chicago, Illinois on Thursday, September 27, 2007 at **Rockit Bar & Grill** to support the new VABC Chicago Chapter! This chapter is based at the **Northwestern University Feinberg School of Medicine** and enables VABC to continue its mission nationwide. A mixture of 150 people were in attendance and the group included many current family and friends of VABC, brain cancer survivors and others who have been touched in any way by brain cancer in the Chicago community. Funds raised from this event will support the **Young Investigators Program** at Northwestern University under the guidance of **Dr. Jeff Raizer**, Head of Neuro-Oncology.

On Saturday, October 27, 2007 VABC sponsored **The Great Pumpkin Walk** in Central Park in New York City. This walk supported **Camp Sunshine**, a free Brain Tumor session program in Casco, Maine. A wonderful time was had by all and the walk was a great success, raising considerable funds to support Camp Sunshine. Thanks again to all of those who attended and see you next year!



2007 Gary Lichtenstein Humanitarian Award recipient, Dr. Steven S. Rosenfeld.

VABC would like to thank everyone who attended and supported our second annual fundraising event, **Sounding Off For A Cure**, on Thursday, June 7, 2007, at the Hammerstein Ballroom. VABC honored **Steven S. Rosenfeld, MD, PhD** with the **2007 Gary Lichtenstein Humanitarian Award**. VABC also presented **2007 Voices Against Brain Cancer Courage Awards** to six individuals who have bravely fought against this devastating disease. They were presented by **Darren M. Latimer**, VABC Board member and brain cancer survivor. The courage award recipients included: **Robert Budlow**, **Regina Epperhart**, **Jessica Henderson-Chen, MD**, **Todd Jerles**, **Robert Silverman** and **Matthew David Twit**.

Sounding Off For A Cure featured cuisine provided by **Aurora Gourmet**, **Barna**, **Cook with Class**, **Mercadito**, **La Parma II** and **Remi**. Beverages were provided by **Brooklyn Brewery**, **Tequila Corazon**, **Dewar's**, **Ketel One**, **Nando** and **Stag's Leap Wine Cellars**. Sponsors of the evening included: **Adidas**, **Cantor Fitzgerald**, **Fimat**, the **Freibaum Family**, **GFI Group**, **Neil Hamburger**, the **Harry M. and Gertrude Y. Schwartz Foundation for Medical Research**, **Jeffries**, **Knight Equity Markets**, **Lehman Brothers**, **Leon Schigel**, the **Lichtenstein Family**, **Merrill Lynch**, **New York Wine Co.**, **Paul P. Bernstein Philanthropic Fund**, **Penguin Menswear**, **Perry Ellis**, **Puma**, **Robert O'Mullan Family Foundation**, **Darren Taube**, **Triar Partners**, **Triarc Companies**, **Triserve** and **Wells Fargo Foothill**.

Save the date for **Sounding Off For A Cure 2008** on **June 5, 2008** at the **Hammerstein Ballroom!** Special thanks go to our wonderful sponsors and volunteers who continue to make this evening possible. If you are interested in sponsoring this event or would like to serve on the Event Committee, please contact Ken Grosso at 646.278.6737.



Top: VABC Courage Award recipients, from left, Matthew Twit and Todd Jerles. Above: Pictured from left, Stacy Winning, Deborah Apton and David Soberman enjoy the Children's Brain Tumor Foundation's annual boat cruise with VABC Board members Paul Knepper, Adam Lichtenstein, Eric Lichtenstein and VABC Event Committee co-chairperson, Brian Jacoby.

initiative spotlight

VABC has raised over \$600,000 for brain cancer research, support programs and educational initiatives over the last two years. With this funding, VABC was able to fund the following programs:

- A two year grant to **Columbia University's New York Presbyterian Hospital Brain Tumor Center** in New York City;
- The creation of the **Raise Your Voice Program (RYVP)** to support people and their families and friends who are dealing with brain cancer;
- The creation of the **Young Investigators Program** for student researchers at **Northwestern University** and
- The production of a film detailing personal experiences with brain cancer.

The grant to Columbia University's New York-Presbyterian Hospital Brain Tumor Center enabled the Center to expand the clinic population by nearly 75%; start a Center support group; introduce five new phase I, II and III brain tumor therapeutic clinical trials to the **Columbia Human Investigations Review Board (IRB)** for patient entry at Columbia; develop a high profile within the local and national referral community; routinely receive referrals from **Memorial Sloan Kettering Cancer Center**, the **Massachusetts General Hospital**, the **University of Pennsylvania** and the **Cornell campus of New York-Presbyterian Hospital**; and move research forward in the areas of mechanical constraints governing glioma invasion and inhibitors of mitotic kinesins.

The RYVP supports patients and families who are touched by brain cancer. This program consists of a manual filled with helpful information on brain cancer covering vast areas from diagnosis to treatment to support. VABC introduced this program to Columbia University's New York - Presbyterian Hospital Brain Tumor Center in 2006/2007 and will begin distributing manuals in January of 2008 to 500 patients and their families throughout the year. It is VABC's ultimate goal to partner with hospitals nationally to distribute the RYVP manual. This program has the potential to reach thousands of patients and their families and friends, nationally. The expansion goal for 2008 is to extend the program to three more hospitals in the New York City area.

The Young Investigators Program sponsors Northwestern University medical students who conduct brain tumor research. Students will be under the guidance of **Dr. Jeff Raizer**, head of Neuro-Oncology at Northwestern Medical Center. As this program develops, VABC will update its supporters on all of the programs being funded and the results of their research. Stay tuned!

VABC has also newly begun production on a film that details the experiences of people coping with brain cancer. This film will reach people on all ends of the brain cancer spectrum, from patients to physicians to researchers, and create increased dialogue in the community that will lead to improved funding for brain cancer.

We look forward to continuing to fund innovative programs in brain cancer research and support. If you are interested in applying for a grant from VABC or would like to sponsor one of our programs, please contact Darren Port at 646.278.6735.

Make a Difference Today

"We make a living by what we do, but we make a life by what we give."
- Winston Churchill

VABC is made up of a diverse group of donors and volunteers. Such people are instrumental to the success of our Foundation's mission. We would be honored if you would like to make a donation today. We would be happy to have you as a member of our growing community.

- **Voices Against Brain Cancer**

- I, or someone I know, has been affected by brain cancer.
- I would like to make a donation. I have enclosed a check in the amount of \$_____ payable to **Voices Against Brain Cancer**.
- I would like to make a donation by credit card in the amount of \$_____. I have listed my credit card information below.
- My company has a matching gifts program.
- I would like to volunteer for this Foundation. Please contact me so that we can work together to find the best way for me to help VABC.
- Please send this newsletter to a friend of mine. Their contact information is:

Name: _____

Address: _____

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Voices Against Brain Cancer
c/o **Powered by Professionals**
1375 Broadway, 3rd Floor
New York, NY 10018

You can also make a donation online. Please visit our website at www.voicesagainstbraincancer.org.

Voices Against Brain Cancer is a not-for-profit public charity recognized by the IRS under 501 (c) (3).

