

MCBA Hospice Charity Tournament A Great Success

By David Norman

The MCBA held their eighth annual Hospice Charity Bowling Tournament this past Sunday at Galaxy Bowling Center, and the results were nothing short of amazing.

Over the last seven years, they had raised over \$60,000 for the local chapter of Hospice Care Plus with this event, and the goal for this year was to exceed 100 attendees and to raise more than their best single year high of \$13,500.

More than 140 bowlers turned out for this year's tournament, filling the entire house at Galaxy Bowling Center, and countless others stopped in to bid on items and give to the cause. At the end of the day, after all the money from sponsors, raffles and auction items was in, the event raised just over \$22,000 for Hospice Care Plus!

This week's column will focus on giving thanks to all of those who helped with raising money to this great cause.

First off, we must give a huge thanks to Galaxy Bowling Center for donating the entire alley for the day. Without their support this event would not be possible.

A very special thanks also goes out to Copyright Printing of Richmond for all their effort and time in printing all the materials for the event. The sponsorship signs were a huge investment in both time and resources, and Copyright's charity was a tremendous and much appreciated contribution.

The MCBA would like to give a big thank you to the Richmond Register and Matthew Rand from WKYT News. Their articles and news coverage were extremely helpful in informing people about this event.

Sponsorships and item donations were a huge reason why this event was such a success this year. In all, there were more than 60 sponsors for the tournament, as contributions from generous local business or individuals sponsoring in memory of a loved one whose family had experience with Hospice services.

Gold Sponsors this year were:

Family and Friends of Lametta Dause, Galaxy Girls Bowling League, Baptist Healthcare, Nextgen, AGC, Wildbridge Builders

Silver Sponsors this year were:

Fanny Rice-Spurlin Mobile Home Park, Galaxy Bowling Center, Green & Grow, Hill Tire, Kentucky Bank, Michael R. Eaves, Miller's Maintenance, Rick Stamper (in memory of Stanley Stamper), Snooty Fox Salon, Teresa Jackson State Farm of Mt. Vernon, Women's BGCAPP

There were nearly fifty Bronze donors this year, too many to list here, but their contributions are greatly appreciated and signs with their names on them are still displayed at Galaxy Bowling Center.

The nearly eighty items that were donated contributed greatly to the fundraising this year. Items included gift cards from local restaurants and stores, a wide variety of baskets created by charitable local businesses and individuals, numerous pieces of art work and handmade crafts, and even a week stay at a condo in Myrtle Beach.

These items were sold through silent auction and raised thousands of dollars. Special thanks to all businesses and individuals who donated an item, as every item brought in money that contributed to this great cause.

MCBA and Hospice owe thanks to everyone who came out to support the cause. Thousands of dollars were raised through bowling entries, raffles, bake sale and donations from people who just stopped in to see everything. Without people attending the event, none of this was possible.

And finally, we would like to say thank you to Hospice. The services provided by their organization are truly helpful to people in their darkest times.

This event started years ago in honor of Lametta Dause, a long-time bowler whose family had just received support from Hospice in their time of need. It was a small event then, but to witness how much the annual tournament has grown over the years is a true testament to the impact that Hospice has on people's lives.

It is with the help of local business and individuals who want to give something back that made everything raised this year, and years past, possible.

It is truly impressive what can be accomplished when a group of people unite together to support a cause.

Thank you again to every person and business that contributed this year, and we look forward to holding the Annual Hospice Tournament in memory of Lametta Dause again next year!