



# weSPARK CANCER SUPPORT CENTER

WINTER 2014 VOLUME 12 ISSUE 1



## Words from weSPARK

In 2013, with a lot of hard work and the support of our community, weSPARK was able to achieve milestones and continue to grow. This upcoming year, weSPARK will expand our reach and continue to advance towards a sustainable future.

I would like to graciously thank our generous donors and the many people who support our fundraising efforts. The Jason Alexander Poker Tournament, the 5th Annual Run Walk, the Annual Variety Show and the Calabasas Golf Tournament were all sold out events. I must take a moment to acknowledge the hard work and commitment of our Board of Directors.

Many individuals in our community help spread awareness about our organization, dedicate themselves to putting on small fundraisers in our name, and generously give of their free time to volunteer. These people can never be thanked enough and truly embody what weSPARK stands for. It really takes a community, a family of caring individuals, to make a difference. Thank you, thank you, thank you! Together let's make 2014 the best year yet!

Nancy Allen, Executive Director

## Inside...

Words from weSPARK.....1

Looking Forward.....1

That's Entertainment....2

Annual Donor Report .....3

weSPARK's 5th Annual Run/Walk .....5

SAVE THE DATE: The Jason Alexander Texas Hold'em Poker Tournament.....6



## Looking Forward

In 2014, weSPARK's primary goal is to increase our reach in to the community. We will continue to create meaningful partnerships with organizations and expand our presence in the virtual and social media community through Facebook, You Tube, Instagram, Twitter, email, and our own website, app and blog.

I am thrilled to announce two major projects launching in 2014. The first is an online community where patients and caregivers can receive our services remotely. The second is offering programs to Spanish speaking patients, their families and friends. These projects will allow us to reach a larger underserved population by breaking down language and geographical barriers.

Thank you to our staff, board members and supporters for making this possible. You keep the spark alive at weSPARK!

Lea Salvatore, MPH Program Director



## OUR MISSION

weSPARK is dedicated to enhancing the quality of life for cancer patients, their families, and friends. weSPARK provides, free of charge, multiple services designed to heal the mind, body and spirit of all those whose lives have been affected by cancer. 818.906.3022 • www.wespark.org

# THAT'S ENTERTAINMENT!



Alonzo Bodden, Nancy Allen & Steven Weber



A night of fun and laughter was had by all who joined us for **Comedy and Cabaret** on September 19th! The sold-out show was hosted by comedian and friend of weSPARK, **Alonzo Bodden**. The evening's honorees were actor, **Jason Alexander** and **Dr. Edgar Staren** of Cancer Treatment Centers of America. We were thrilled to showcase the talents of **Ray Romano**, **Billy Gardell** and **Cheryl Hines**, to name a few. Many thanks to **Charlene Sperber**, our Producer/Director **Barbara Epstein**, our generous sponsors and those of you who attended; it was quite a memorable evening. 🌈



© Michael Schwartz 2013

Cheryl Hines



Dr. Donald Braun & Dr. Edgar D. Staren

Photographs provided by: Michael Schwartz, David Palmer, and Ron Eisenberg



© Michael Schwartz 2013

Alonzo Bodden, Ray Romano & Billy Gardell



© Michael Schwartz 2013

Valerie Perri, Steven Weber, Jennifer Leigh Warren, Lindsey Alley



Barbara Epstein, Charlene Sperber & Nancy Allen

We invite you to visit our website to view all tributes.

Thank you for your support.

[www.wespark.org](http://www.wespark.org)

YOU keep the spark alive at weSPARK...

the  Torchbearers

The Torchbearers is for big-hearted individuals who wish to give an annually recurring gift to weSPARK Cancer Support Center for annually recurring needs.

Please become a Torchbearer and help support weSPARK! Visit [www.wespark.org](http://www.wespark.org) to join today.

Look Good...Feel Better

Join us at weSPARK for a night of beauty & fun, plus a make-up kit provided by the American Cancer Society.



We meet on the 2nd Wednesday of each month in Sherman Oaks.

Space is limited, must call to sign-up. Call Alexandra at (818) 906-3022



The Torchbearers is for big-hearted individuals who wish to give an annually recurring gift to weSPARK Cancer Support Center for annually recurring needs.

weSPARK is a unique and nurturing place that offers FREE Support Groups, Programs and Classes of a therapeutic and holistic nature to cancer patients, their families and friends.

weSPARK wishes to thank all of our generous Torchbearers!

#### the **BLAZE** level \$10,000 and up

Tom & Rita Hanks  
Charlene Sperber

#### the **FLAME** level \$5,000-\$9,999

Bruce Bolkin & DeAnn Heline  
Jessica Davis  
Maurice Lamarche  
Ellice Sperber & Dale Van Fossen  
Richard & Shawn Sperber

#### the **GLOW** level \$1,000-\$4,999

Nancy Allen  
Eileen Benwitt  
Ken & Karen Blancato  
Cathy Cressy  
Claudia DeCea  
Russ Diamond  
Elaine & Bill Donley  
Kelly Duke

Matt Epstein & Jane Kaplan  
Cheryl & Donald Fair  
V. Donovan Field  
Sharyn Fitzgerald  
Bruce & Amber Gendein  
Sam Gores  
John & Missy Halperin  
Ken & Arlene Hutcheson  
Barry & Joanne Jacobs  
Michael & Hillary Kanigher  
Sherri Kent  
David Kipper  
Chuck & Eden Kokoska  
Zorina Kroop  
Anton Maillie & Mari Fuentes  
Susan & Sheldon Malchicoff  
Gabriel & Teresa Marquez  
David Oburg  
Derek Perrin  
Barclay & Susan Perry  
Jane Pitluck  
Melvin & Beverly Rosenthal  
Wayne Scott  
Matthew & Maryann Siegel  
Holland Taylor  
Lawrence Taylor  
Arthur Toretzky

#### the **SPARK** level \$500-\$999

Martha & Larry Ball  
Sandy & Michael Bernstein  
Michael Bertram  
Janet Blake & Brian Ray Hodge  
Maxine Brauer  
Jules Buenabenta  
Luanne Burgoyne  
Debbie & Jim Burrows  
Pamela Carleton  
Herb & Francine Cooper  
Suzi Dietz  
Victoria Dummer  
Conchata Ferrell  
Roni Fischer  
Patrick Fraioli  
Frank Galassi  
Carol Gaspar & Family  
Eddie Goldstone  
Paul & Suzanne Green  
Ingemar Gustafson  
Vieve Haag  
Bob Hirsch

Cameron Hurtado  
Richard Leonard  
Laurie Linvill  
Gary Macdonald  
Michael Nixen  
Marc Nover  
Aaron Paley  
Anita Pointer  
Leslie & Len Reid  
Michael Schlenker  
Maggie Schmidt  
Jodye Selco  
Doris & Michael Sherman  
Spencer Shiffman  
Sylvia Silver  
Arnold Sisk  
Patrick Sullivan  
Francine Tolkin Cooper  
Gary Tungate  
Liliana Volkart  
Judy Wieder & Suzanne Buirgy  
Paula Warner  
Wickham Zimmerman

#### the **IGNITE** level \$250 - \$499

Olga Aldama  
Gary & Christina Alwood  
Edward Astrin & Karen Finch  
David Azulay  
Jay & Stacy Balibrea  
David Bickel  
Karla Butler  
Jon Davison & Sarah Cruikshank  
Edward De Stefan  
Jeffrey Berman  
Isabelle Bral  
Cerra Buckholz  
Ronald Cammarata  
Ericson Core  
Jeff Dalla Betta  
Paul Dallenbach  
Leigh Datzker  
Scott Davis  
Steven Day  
Ronald Dierkes  
Stephen Edwards  
Charlie Federspiel  
Patricia Fermin  
William Finestone  
Chad & Jennifer Fitzgerald  
Isoline Fitzgerald

Leonard Garner  
 Sandy Ginsburg  
 Robert Goldberg  
 Jann Goldsby  
 Carrie & Jack Goodchild  
 Steven Goodman  
 Noreen Graham  
 Daniel Grover  
 Manvel Gyuloglyan  
 Cary Hara  
 Bruce Hecker  
 Miki Herman  
 Jay Hieatt  
 Gretchen Hiegel  
 Daniel Hom  
 Jeannine Imperiale  
 Wendy & Michael James  
 Barbara Jampel  
 Robin Johnson  
 Taneka Johnson  
 Michael Juceam  
 Judy Kain  
 Steve Kennedy  
 Trice Koopman  
 Jay & Wilma Kubrin  
 Brenda & Jack Kuznitsky  
 Lori & Larry Lapides  
 Todd Locicero  
 Rachel Marquez & Family  
 Dorothy Mathious & Jenna Mathioudakis  
 Brigid McBride  
 Joanie & Howard Mees  
 Phil & Angie Mramor  
 Sharma Nagle  
 Sam Orender  
 Jo Pessin & Family  
 Steven Piorkowski  
 Marty Pompadur  
 Ciarra Pringle  
 Jan Quinn-Jutras & Roger Jutras  
 Amy Reinhard  
 Anita Rich  
 Joy Rotblatt & Warren Garfield  
 Howard Rowen  
 Alma & Nat Rubinfeld  
 Rochelle & Tadd Russikoff  
 Anne Schulhof  
 Donald Schwartz  
 Tony Scott  
 Annette Shapiro  
 Maybin Sherman

Nancy Smith  
 Robert & Nancy Smith  
 Ken Spero  
 Irwin & Lorri Spiegel  
 Florian Stadler  
 Jeffrey Stern  
 Adam Stines  
 James Sutorius  
 Terence Sweeney  
 Albert Sweet  
 Elisa Sweigart  
 Yvonne & Steven Thomson  
 Suzanne Todd & Doug Aaroniokoski  
 Michael Topp & Rena Shpegel  
 Eric Trembl  
 Bill & Sheryl Tucker  
 Hal Tudisco & Richard Kopelle  
 Carrie Velasco  
 Collin Watts  
 Jerry Weeks  
 Maria Weidmann  
 Wilfred Weinstein  
 Barbara Weisbrod  
 Joe Wengert  
 Steve & Cynthia White  
 Taylor White  
 Chad Wilson  
 William Witherington  
 Michael Wolf & Laurie Allen  
 Elliott & Judy Wolfe  
 Steven Wolfe  
 Varooge Yerganian  
 Ruth Ziegler

## FOUNDATIONS

Aaroe Associates Charitable Foundation  
 Ahmanson Foundation  
 Donald T. Sterling Charitable Foundation  
 Downey-Short Foundation  
 Fleishhacker Foundation  
 Gale Family Foundation  
 Grace Helen Spearman Charitable  
 Foundation  
 Hollywood Church of Religious  
 Science Foundation  
 Jewish Community Foundation  
 Lewis Greenwood Foundation  
 Muskin Family Foundation  
 Sperber Community Property Trust  
 Robert & Leslie Zemeckis, The  
 Zemeckis Charitable Foundation

## CONTRIBUTORS & SUPPORTERS

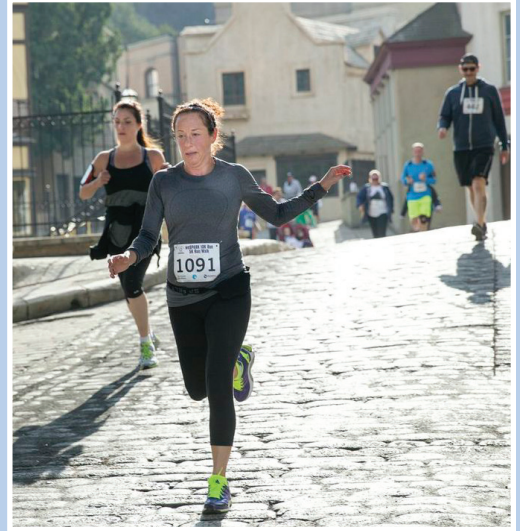
Alliant Insurance Services, Inc.  
 Backyard Productions  
 Benefits Exchange Alliance  
 Bosley & Associates  
 Cal Fire  
 Calabasas Country Club  
 California Bank & Trust  
 California Rent A Car  
 Cancer Treatment Centers of  
 America  
 CBS Television Network  
 Credit Suisse Securities  
 Deloitte  
 Fiserv Premier Outsourcing,  
 Western Region  
 Ford Motor Company  
 Forest Lawn  
 Gendler & Kelly  
 Green Hasson & Janks  
 Hollywood Poker  
 Keyes Automotive Group  
 La Frite Food Truck  
 Mon Atelier  
 New Mill Capital, LLC  
 Occidental Entertainment Group  
 Holding, Inc.  
 Otto Nemenz International  
 Paradigm Talent Agency  
 Poker Royalty Inc.  
 Rain Bird  
 RH Factor  
 Sports Authority  
 SRG  
 Sun Lighting Services, Inc.  
 The Rich Group  
 Toro Company  
 UBS Financial Services  
 US Bank  
 ValleyCrest Companies  
 Wavefront Technology  
 Weddington Street Productions  
 Weinstock Manion  
 Wells Fargo 

You can find a complete list  
 of donors from 2013 on our  
 website: [www.wespark.org](http://www.wespark.org)

# weSPARK's 5th Annual Run/Walk



Warming-up before the race



The cobblestone path of New York Street



It was a cold morning, as hundreds of participants piled off the shuttles onto the backlot expo area at weSPARK's 5th Annual Run Walk. The sun came out as the horn blew, signaling the beginning of the race. The course was jam packed with popular characters and all-time favorite movie sets. We had some of LA's most famous food trucks, including **Perk Me Up**, **La Frite Express**, **Corn Heaven**, **Steel City Sandwich** and **Rockberry** for the hungry participants after they crossed the finish line. The event was a huge success for weSPARK and we raised enough to continue offering our free services to hundreds of cancer patients and their families. 🌈



Lea Thompson motivates the crowd



And they're off!



Nancy Allen and Michelle Stafford



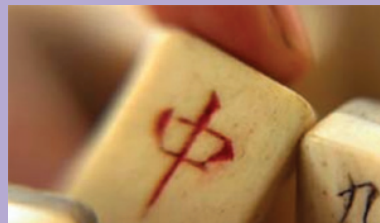
"Doc" and "Jennifer", Claudia Wells, with the original DeLorean.

## MAX JONGG

is an ancient tile game that can serve as a great way to **improve memory and have fun!**

**Beginners welcome. Come join us and learn how to play!**

**Mondays at 11:00am-3:00pm at weSPARK Cancer Support Center**



13520 Ventura Blvd. Sherman Oaks  
(818) 906-3022 • [www.wespark.org](http://www.wespark.org)

weSPARK presents...

**My Bridge 4 Life**  
Building Healthy Tomorrows

**your online community for patients, caregivers, and supporters.**

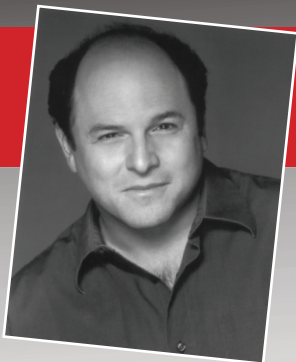


Nonprofit  
U.S. Postage  
PAID  
PRINT & MAIL  
4U

13520 Ventura Blvd.  
Sherman Oaks, CA 91423

weSPARK Tax-Deductible  
ID: 95-4758462

## *The Jason Alexander Texas Hold 'em*



# POKER TOURNAMENT

### **The Beverly Garland**

Garland Ballroom, 4222 Vineland Ave.,  
North Hollywood, CA 91602

Proceeds to benefit  
**weSPARK Cancer Support Center**  
to keep all services free for cancer  
patients, their families and friends.

SAVE THE DATE | **SUNDAY, MARCH 9, 2014**