



Five-Year-and-More GIST Survivors were awarded special certificates by David Epstein, President of Novartis Oncology (David is pictured to the far right). Standing to the left of Epstein is Richard Palmer, our Volunteer of the Year Award nominee. Over 100 people attended the meeting and as one member put it, "I was always grateful for Gleevec—even more so [seeing] there are so many people doing better."

BULLETIN

Battling gastrointestinal stromal tumor



LIFE RAFT GROUP

October 2006

In memory of Peter Thomas, William Verriet,
Jani DeHart, & Betty Rosenbluth

A message from the Executive Director

By Norman J. Scherzer

We are not putting out our regular Newsletter this month but rather using the time to catch up after our wonderful Life Fest meeting in Dallas, Texas. We will cover the meeting in detail in our November Newsletter. The photo on this page of five-year-and-more GIST survivors illustrates one of the many meeting highlights.

We have already placed some of the meeting presentations on our website at http://www.liferaftgroup.org/members_lifest.html. We will be adding other presentations in the near future.

We are on a fast track to finding a cure

for GIST and we believe that the strategic approach coordinated by our world class research team will serve as a model for finding a cure for other cancers.

Our Thanksgiving fundraising campaign will shortly begin and will reach out to those who wish to support our programs to:

- Make sure that no one dies because they cannot access life-saving treatment.
- Make sure that no one dies because of their ignorance or that of their physicians.
- Ensure that no one has to face GIST alone.
- Find a cure for GIST.

Coming Attractions

October 9-National Cancer Research Institute Meeting, Birmingham, U.K.; Presentation on Patient-led Research by Norman Scherzer.

October 12-Third Annual Poker Tournament, New York City; Contact Trish at 973-837-9092 for details.

October 13-Alabama local Life Raft Group meeting; Contact Pat George at patgeorge@bham.rr.com.

October 15-GIST Cancer Research Fund Annual Walk, Congers, NY; Contact Tania Stutman at gist-cancerfund@aol.com for details.

October 16-26-Quilt Auction, see: http://www.liferaftgroup.org/windswept_tree.html

October 21-Ohio local Life Raft Group meeting; Contact Kaye Thompson at tnt.1@sbcglobal.net.

November 3-5-Connective Tissue Oncology Society (CTOS) conference, Venice, Italy.

NOVEMBER LIFE RAFT GROUP ANNUAL THANKSGIVING CAMPAIGN:

Our Major Fundraiser.

If you have questions, contact Elizabeth at ebraun@liferaftgroup.org.