

Pine Tree Apple 
TENNIS CLASSIC



Thursday - Sunday, August 1-4, 2019

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Pine Tree Apple
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Funds raised benefit cancer
research programs at

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MINNESOTA

34th Annual Pine Tree Apple Tennis Classic

August 1 – 4, 2019

Thursday, August 1

4:00 - 7:00 PM	Food Tent
5:00 PM	Masters – 3 matches, Round of 16
6:30 PM	Masters – 3 matches, Round of 16

Friday, August 2

8:00 AM - 4:00 PM	Food Tent
8:00 AM	Open – 4 matches, Round of 32
10:00 AM	Open – 4 matches, Round of 32
12:00 PM	Open – 4 matches, Round of 32
2:00 PM	Open – 4 matches, Round of 32
4:00 PM	Grand Masters – 4 matches, Quarterfinals
6:00 - 8:30 PM	PTATC Appreciation Party at Vadnais Heights Commons (by paid admission only)

Saturday, August 3

9:00 AM - 5:00 PM	Food Tent
10:00 AM - 4:00 PM	Children's Crafts
9:00 AM	Masters – Quarterfinals
11:00 AM	Open – 4 matches, Round of 16
1:00 PM	Open – 4 matches, Round of 16
3:00 PM	Masters & Grandmasters – Semifinals
5:00 PM	Open – Quarterfinals

Sunday, August 4

10:00 AM - 3:30 PM	Food Tent
10:00 AM - 3:00 PM	Children's Crafts
10:00 AM	Open – Semifinals
12:00 PM	Masters & Grandmasters – Finals
1:30 PM	Programs & Awards
2:00 PM	Open - Finals

WELCOME!

The Pine Tree Apple Tennis Classic (PTATC) is a premier mixed-doubles tennis tournament. Held annually in August, the PTATC features more than 100 of the area's top men's and women's tennis players.

Funds raised benefit the cancer research program at Children's Minnesota. Your generosity in supporting the PTATC helps provide vital information to cancer specialists around the world and supports the healing of the patient's whole body when receiving treatment at Children's Minnesota.

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Hosted by



Pine Tree Apple
Classic Fund

A Message from the Pine Tree Apple Classic Fund Board



Friends of Pine Tree,

Welcome to the 34th annual Pine Tree Apple Tennis Classic (PTATC)! Whether it's your first year or you've come out every year, you are in for some great tennis and you are supporting an amazing cause.

Pine Tree Apple Classic Fund (PTACF), which puts on the PTATC, is proud to be in its second year as a non-profit organization. Thanks to everyone who supported this event, we had our second largest fundraising year EVER in 2018 and were able to deliver a check to Children's Minnesota for \$260,000 last December to continue the targeted research areas that Pine Tree supports in our fight for a cure. THANK YOU for your generosity!

Since its existence, the PTATC has raised almost \$5.5 million for children's cancer research. We continue to fund targeted research areas that have produced outcomes benefitting children here in Minnesota and around the world. This includes the development of two cutting-edge tumor registries, the discovery of the DICER 1 gene that is not only linked to PPB cancer in children but has far reaching impact on other types of cancers as well as multiple studies and research for improving the physical function of children who have gone through cancer treatment. We are grateful to Dr. Yoav Messinger, Dr. Kris Ann Schultz and Dr. Laura Gilchrist for their leadership as well as the entire research team and staff at Children's Minnesota in producing these incredible outcomes. It is truly a team effort including collaboration with other research institutions.

We want to thank Gretchen Williams, a long-time researcher that PTATC funds support, who is retiring

from Children's this year. Gretchen helped develop and maintain the PPB rare tumor registry, which has been our "flagship" research area and recognized as a best practice standard around the world. A parent of one of our past "honored angels" said it best..."you need to collect data, review and understand it in order to make better treatment decisions". The registry data helped bring closure for this parent knowing the best treatment possible was provided to her child; however, NO parent should have to go through this and lose a child to cancer. Please continue to support this event so one day we can say, "Game, Set, Cure"! Gretchen has been truly inspiring and we wish her all the best in retirement.

We are grateful to all those who help make Pine Tree a success each year: The Peterson's (our Founding Family), The Jacobson's Pine Tree Apple Orchard (our founding Sponsor), Life Time (our Site Sponsor), all our Event and Presenting sponsors, tennis players, volunteers, donors at all levels and Children's Minnesota research team. You are all critical to our success and we appreciate all that you do.

Enjoy everything the 2019 PTATC has to offer—great tennis, food, merchandise and fellowship as we play for a cure!

With sincere gratitude,

Pine Tree Apple Classic Fund Board

Kevin Werwie, President; Nancy Jacobson, Treasurer;
Dee Gaeddert, Director; Jason Albrecht, Secretary

A Message from the Founding Family

It's a very difficult time for our family at this time because Mary Ann has been diagnosed with Glioblastoma and to make matters more difficult, she has also been diagnosed with a Norcardia infection which has to be treated first because to treat both would compromise her immune system, which would be very dangerous and maybe even fatal.

The one very bright spot is you guys who have worked tirelessly to continue to make the Pine Tree work year after year, against all odds. We are very proud to be associated with you.

The Pine Tree Apple Tennis Classic (PTATC) was initially started in 1986 to fund research so that the oncology community could share treatment data as it relates to age, weight, etc. of young cancer patients and the successes and failures of those treatments.

When Julie, our youngest daughter, was diagnosed there weren't any "hard and fast" recommendations as to what type and how much chemotherapy to use. In those early years of Pine Tree, it was reported that 50% or more of the young patients died from the chemotherapy and/or other supplemented treatments that were used to cure young people. Since then, the PTATC has provided funds, not only to supply the research money to set up a national network of critical data that oncology doctors can use to better treat the young cancer patients, but also to support research into other childhood diseases and improve the physical function of children who survive treatment (see Pine Tree Tree website, ptacf.org).

There are many people that Mary Ann, Julie, and I will be eternally grateful to for their support. First, to the tennis players who not only put on an incredibly entertaining sports event but are also voracious fundraisers. Equally important is the Pine Tree Apple Orchard, who stepped up early on when there was a great chance of failure. The Jacobson family has made substantial financial contributions since the event started and has also provided a tremendous "soft" contribution



with their time and energy. Someone once said to me, "Everywhere you look, there is a Jacobson doing something from cooking and directing traffic to picking up trash, and always with great big smiles."

Jim and Ginny Anderson were the "everlasting food cooks" for many years with many competent helpers.

White Bear businesses did what they could to help us and gave what they could. Believe me, we could not have done it without them.

The current Pine Tree Apple Classic FundBoard, Kevin Werwie, Nancy Jacobson, Dee Gaeddert and Jason Albrecht are working through some difficult logistics. They have spent an inordinate amount of their personal time to set up a new infrastructure.

Again, last year was awesome. It's all of these efforts and more that have made the PTATC one of the longest lasting, most successful local charities ever. I know there are many, many appreciative parents of children with cancer who thank you for your contributions.

You guys are the best. Thank you from the bottom of our hearts,

Ron and Mary Ann Peterson

A Message from the Founding Sponsor



Dear Spectators,

Nearly 35 years ago, Ron Peterson and Dan Aberg invited us to join with them by lending financial support to their effort to establish a tennis tournament as a means to raise money for research into childhood cancer. We readily agreed to provide the seed money they were looking for and the Pine Tree Apple Tennis Classic was born.

As the 2019 Pine Tree Apple Tennis Classic (the 34th year!) is about to begin, we are thrilled at its continuing success and happy to reiterate our position as founding sponsors. It's been a rewarding experience for our family to work with the many volunteers who make this tournament possible and exciting to be a part of the continuing enthusiasm that they generate.

We're proud to be the founding sponsors of an event that, in just 34 years, has raised over \$5.5 million for the cancer research and oncology programs at Children's Minnesota, and we look forward to continuing our support in the future.

Thanks for joining us in our goal - to earn the last dollar ever in the fight against children's cancer.

Sincerely,
The Jacobson Family
Pine Tree Apple Orchard

A Message from the Research Team

Dear Pine Tree Players, Sponsors, Volunteers and Honored Guests,

Our sincerest thanks to all of you for your ongoing support and worldwide impact! We continue to marvel at the dedication, hard work and generosity of this group. In 1986, Ron and MaryAnn Peterson and the Jacobson family held the first Pine Tree Apple Tennis Classic to fund cancer research at Children's Minnesota. Thirty-four years later, our shared mission continues and the annual event now hosts more than 100 of the area's top men's and women's tennis players and has raised over \$5.5 million for children's cancer research.

We're excited to report that since last year's Pine Tree event, the funds raised have continued to inform the care of children with cancer here in Minnesota and around the world.

The PPB/DICER1 Registry is now open in Beijing which helps us advance the care of children with cancer in China and also helps advance research. The Registry guidelines for care of individuals with DICER1 are leading to early diagnosis of DICER1-related cancers in their earliest and most curable form.

Our work to transition to early tumor detection through blood testing continues with encouraging results. Our goal is to reduce the number of times a child must be sedated and exposed to radiation for imaging studies for tumor screening. In addition to new ways to diagnose tumors, we are seeking more effective and less toxic methods of treatment. With your support, we study tumor samples to learn which conventional and novel strategies best treat PPB and other DICER1-related tumors. Also in the last year, we've brought together physicians from Spain and Japan to study the best approach to brain metastases in children with PPB.

Children who undergo treatment for cancer deserve to not only survive their disease, but also to thrive both during and after treatment. PTACF funded research supports both of these critical goals. In the supportive care research arena, we have developed measures of nerve damage for school aged children caused by some of the curative drugs in hopes that we will eventually be able to prevent or treat this important side-effect. We are now working on a scale that measures this same nerve damage in children aged 1 to 4 years.

These measures will help us to improve children's care and long-term quality of life. Additionally, we have trials underway to examine the impact of rehabilitation on the health and well-being of children during treatment and into survivorship. All of these discoveries were made possible through your hard work and generosity.

Advances in childhood cancer research are being made, but there are miles to go before we rest. Children with advanced solid tumors including PPB still face poor prognoses and side effects of intensive therapies. More research is urgently needed to cure more children and improve quality of life for cancer survivors. More than 10,000 children under the age of 15 are diagnosed with cancer each year, and despite major treatment advances, 20% of children with cancer will not survive.

We believe all children deserve the same chance. Each child deserves a cure and the best available care to prevent chemotherapy side effects. Quality of life, and the longevity of each life, should be the goal as we work to improve cure rates for children diagnosed with cancer. Generous support from PTACF is a significant part of the funding we rely upon to do this work. None of the tremendous advances in PPB/DICER1 and chemotherapy related neuropathy would have occurred without the PTACF.

We know that this research would not be possible without the hard work and generosity of each of you. We value and appreciate the support you provide to children and families across the country and around the world.

This has been a remarkable year. As we reflect on our shared successes and challenges, we are grateful for the contributions of so many individuals who made this possible. At the same time, the beloved children who were diagnosed with late stage PPB or died despite best available care teach us that we have a long way to go. We're grateful for the opportunity to continue this work in their honor and with your support. With gratitude,

Sincerely,

Kris Ann Schultz, MD, Yoav Messinger, MD, Laura Gilchrist PT, PhD, Lynn Tanner, MPT, Anne Harris, MPH, Ann Mason, CRA and Paige Mallinger, MS

Honored Angel: McKenzie Marquez



The heartfelt, inspirational story of McKenzie Marquez, our 2019 Honored Angel, is a powerful and inspiring love story between a beautiful, strong young woman and her equally beautiful and strong mother and family.

But, honestly, it is much more than that. It is also the story of a young woman -- wise and mature beyond her tender age of 18 -- who valiantly fought an aggressive and terrible cancer while thinking of others by allowing her tissue to be studied in the hopes of helping other people, particularly other kids. *"That's just the way she was."*

It is also a story of divine faith, particularly at the end of her life, as she returned to the Catholic Church and was baptized by Fr. Kent, a healing priest that her uncle and aunt reached out to before her passing. He traveled to McKenzie's bedside in time to baptize her per her wishes at her sickest hour.

McKenzie passed away just after midnight on St. Patrick's Day, March 17th, 2019. She battled a very rare, unrelenting condition of mutating ovarian tumors called Sertoli Leydig Cell Tumors that eventually took her life.

Bianca Griego, McKenzie's mother, recounted the events that lead up to her diagnosis. *"McKenzie was originally diagnosed with an ovarian cyst.*

Normally, this is a relatively benign condition that is easily managed. A few months later it ruptured and it was then determined that it was, in fact, a tumor. She underwent treatment and, at one point, it appeared through scans that the cancer had disappeared. Unfortunately, it came back and then just kept mutating. In spite of everything that the doctors did, they couldn't save my daughter's life."

"McKenzie would amaze me all of the time with her strength and will power. She'd always look at me and tell me that everything was ok."

While saddened by the toll it took on her beloved daughter, Bianca is appreciative of everything that was done for McKenzie after her cancer diagnosis. *"It was comforting to hear that her doctors in Albuquerque were in contact with other amazing oncologists at M.D. Anderson and in the Twin Cities to consider the best course of action to battle McKenzie's tumors. We also heard that doctors in Germany and Italy were consulted. We are so appreciative of everyone's efforts. It gives me comfort knowing that the best minds in the medical community did everything they could to stop this evil disease."*

Being a normal high school senior was important to McKenzie. The disease wouldn't allow that but her high school superintendent and principal delivered her diploma to her in the hospital. Her senior class has a dedicated page to her in their yearbook.

"Her last days were overwhelming and hard. She didn't want to hear about hospice. She just wasn't ready to accept that fate. She was a true warrior."

Supporting Bianca throughout McKenzie's journey was her boyfriend, Jesus Nanez, along with McKenzie's brother, Joshua, and sisters Savannah and Natori.

"In McKenzie's name, it is important that we keep research going so that others will not experience what my beautiful daughter had to endure. Thank you to all who support the great things you do with the funds that are raised at this event."

Honored Patient: Benjamin Dapper



Let's start off with some really great news. Benjamin Dapper (4) from Farmington, MN will be starting preschool this fall and he's so excited to make new friends there. Due to his treatment for leukemia last year, he wasn't able to attend preschool as planned. We just had to get that out!

Since he was diagnosed with B-Cell Acute Lymphoblastic Leukemia on February 20, 2018, Ben and his family (parents Nathan and Brigitte, brothers Matthew and Isaac) have ridden the roller coaster of emotions that all pediatric cancer patients and their families face.

Ben's mom, Brigitte, recounted the challenging weeks that led up to his diagnosis. *"Ben had swollen lymph nodes in his neck around Christmas 2017 and later got sick with a virus in January. He had a complete blood count and was tested for influenza, strep, and mono, and everything came back negative. In February, he spiked a high fever and was diagnosed with the flu and pneumonia. He got a little better with antibiotics but then his fever jumped back up to 104°F. His body just wasn't responding to treatment."* Their doctor urged them to come back in and then go straight over to Children's where his diagnosis was confirmed.

Ben had 9 months of intense frontline treatment from February-November 2018. He then began the maintenance phase and that will continue until April 27, 2021.

Ben's family is appreciative of everyone at Children's Minnesota.

"Children's has been AMAZING! Every member of the staff really cares about each and every one of the kids and families that walk through their doors. The Oncology Department is like a family and we feel like we are part of it. It is a family we never wanted to be in but we are so grateful to be a part of it now," said Brigitte.

Dr. Bruce Bostrom, his primary oncologist, even taught Ben the "Captain America Song." Ben's favorite superhero is Captain America but the Dappers had no idea that he even had a song. Ben also likes to "talk shop" with a few of his nurses who are also hockey fans.

The Dappers also have a soft spot for the Pine Tree Apple Tennis Classic and all who support it.

"The funds that are given to the physical therapy department through the Pine Tree Apple Tennis Classic have been instrumental in Ben's cancer journey. Lynn, Ben's PT, is leading the charge by advocating for the physical therapy needs of kids going through cancer treatment. She is teaching physical therapists around the world how to help these kids. Back in March of last year Ben could hardly walk from the couch to the table without holding someone's hand, as he was physically handicapped due to his cancer treatments. If it weren't for her and the other staff, Ben would likely not be able to run, jump, and play like a normal 4-year-old boy should. Without these physical abilities Ben would not be able to play baseball and hockey, which he loves, or climb on play equipment and chase after his friends with a water gun. It is so important for their emotional and mental health for kids like Ben to be able to be physically active."

Honored Patients: Clara & Edison Sherwood



Few patient/family stories in recent years better represent the mission, research and patient care that can be traced back to the Pine Tree Apple Tennis Classic than that of Clara and Edison Sherwood of Bemidji, Minnesota.

When Clara, now age 9, was 15 months old, her parents felt a lump on her side. An ultrasound quickly showed what was believed to be Wilms tumor on her kidney and they were immediately directed to Children's Minnesota in the Twin Cities. At that point Clara's mom, Amanda, said the first of many "miracles" occurred.

"We were so blessed to have Dr. Yoav Messinger on call that evening. In the course of him asking us background questions, I casually mentioned that my older sister had what we would later find out was PPB (Pleuropulmonary Blastoma). Immediately, Dr. Messinger went down a new line of questioning based on his knowledge and experience of the disease through Children's and his involvement in the Pine Tree Apple Tennis Classic. Instead of Clara being treated for Wilms tumor and having her entire kidney removed, Clara was diagnosed with Cystic Nephroma and her kidney was saved with surgery."

Clara had the DICER 1 link. With their family history, Amanda and Justin Sherwood's children would all need to be all screened. When Clara's little brother Edison or "Eddie" was born he too had the DICER 1 mutation. Fortunately, their older son Charlie (10) does not carry it.

"When Eddie was 11 months old, scans showed a small tumor in one of his lungs. A month later he had surgery. Because it was localized, the surgeon was able to remove the tumor completely. Later on, another small tumor appeared on his lung and our "second miracle" occurred. That tumor eventually disappeared on its own and there is no sign of the cancer now."

Today, both Sherwood kids are doing great. Clara is going into 4th grade, is outgoing and a huge sports fan. She loves participating in basketball and softball and cheering enthusiastically for the Minnesota Twins. Her love of life and her pride at being a cancer survivor show through to all around her.

Eddie is now 3 and, like his older sister, is extremely outgoing. He's very aware of everything going on around him and loves doing anything outside, particularly if it involves his older brother Charlie who he worships.

The Sherwood family is extremely thankful for the care they continue to receive at Children's Minnesota under the direction of Dr. Kris Ann Schultz. *"How do you put it into words?"* said Amanda.

"We know we are very blessed and so lucky to be seen by the doctors and nurses and researchers that take care of our kids, particularly given their expertise with PPB." Amanda also wanted to thank all the supporters of the Pine Tree Apple Tennis Classic. "We know that our kids good health is tied to the great work that results from the funds that are raised here."

Honored Patient: Olivia Sunderman



For Nick and Sheena Sunderman of Sauk Centre, Minnesota, their daughter Olivia's cancer diagnosis on November 22, 2017 was a life-changing reality check.

"It's something we never thought we would ever be going through and wouldn't wish upon anyone else," said Sheena. *"But, a lot of good has come out of this situation. It has truly shown us what is most important."*

Now just 2 years old, Olivia was diagnosed with Juvenile Pilocytic Astrocytoma after her family noticed that her head grew by 2 inches in 4 weeks and she stopped rolling over. Since then, Olivia and her family have completed 18 of their 20 months of chemotherapy treatments.

"Olivia's cancer diagnosis has changed everything about our lives," continued Sheena. *"From certain beliefs we had about cancer to how we live each day, little things that used to be stressful to us are no longer on our minds. We see things a bit more clearly now and have found strength in ourselves and in our family that we didn't know existed. We have been honored to receive so much from our family, friends and community, and we look forward to the day we can give back to others in need. We have grown deeper in our faith and can see God working through Olivia and our family."*

The Sunderman's appreciation extends to Olivia's medical team led by Dr. Anne Bendel at Children's Minnesota and those who contribute to ongoing research efforts.

"We could not be happier or more grateful for everyone involved with Olivia's care. We owe her life to everyone on her team and that is something we will never forget. We are excited to be nearing the end of treatment but when I think about not seeing everyone on our weekly trips to Children's it makes me sad. They have become family to us and we get a sense of joy whenever we see everyone who has helped Olivia throughout this journey."

Olivia's intense treatment has not tempered her cheerful personality and infectious smile. According to her family, Olivia has been a fighter from Day 1 and always inspires them to keep going and push through the challenging days.

The Sundermans are looking ahead with optimism for a wonderful life for Olivia. Today, she loves swinging, going for walks and just about anything outside with her sisters Lauren (7) and Kendall (5). She also loves playing with her babies and making food in her play kitchen.

When asked about advice for other newly diagnosed families, Sheena offered the following.

"Take things one day at a time. Try to focus on the good things that happen and the wonderful people you will meet. It can be easy to get sucked into the negative emotions but please don't waste energy on those things. Just do what you have to do in the moment and if you have a form of spirituality, try to harness that - it will help give you strength."

Honored Patient: Andre Yasis



The core story that Cheryl Yasis tells about her son Andre from July 6, 2017 is one that is all too familiar in the world of pediatric cancer.

"I took Andre to the doctor because he'd had periodic nosebleeds and small red spots that appeared and spread across this body after returning from a family trip to hike Machu Picchu in Peru. Doctors suspected Dengue Fever or Zika virus but then blood tests revealed something very different and unexpected -- leukemia."

Andre was immediately hospitalized in the ICU at Children's Hospital in Minneapolis. Further tests revealed T-cell ALL, one of the most common forms of pediatric leukemia.

Andre's diagnosis came only 10 months after his family moved to St. Paul from the Chicago area. *"We were so lucky to be back in our home state where family and friends could help us and be near Children's Hospital where Andre's type of cancer could be treated,"* continued Cheryl.

"Cassandra Howard is our primary nurse and always took time to draw Andre out, to ensure he was comfortable, to connect and make him laugh. We're so very lucky to have her through this journey! Dr. Rawas, his oncologist, is gentle, kind and truly listens to our concerns. We are fortunate that our hospital is progressive, offering new treatment therapies like physical therapy as part of Andre's treatment plan to ensure that Andre can be as normal as possible."

Lending support to Andre (16) along with Cheryl are his dad, Mel, and siblings Alina and Rafa. Andre completed his 10 months of intense chemo in May 2018. He is almost 2 years in to 3.5-year treatment plan.

Andre is a 'chill' kid. He's quiet, humble and doesn't complain. Andre likes to hang out with friends and loves his two dogs, Winnie and Oliver.

The Yasis Family is consistent with other pediatric oncology families in advice for others impacted by cancer. *"Lean on others for help. Whether you have family to assist or not, there are plenty of kind, wonderful people who care about you and your family. Cancer has definitely changed us but we try not to let it rule our lives."*

Andre comes from a tennis family. In fact, "everyone" plays. Andre missed most of his freshman year of high school and tennis, too.

"He played varsity tennis this year as a junior while still on chemo and undergoing treatment. He's an amazing kid and we're proud of him." Andre was named after tennis legend Andre Agassi. Like Agassi, he's a fighter!"

"Corporate relocations kept us moving around the world but we always returned to Life Time Fitness in White Bear Lake to play tennis and attend the PTATC whenever we could. Little did we know that we would rely on the hospital and doctors for our own child's survival."

"We're thankful for Pine Tree Apple Orchard and Life Time for sponsoring this event. With cancer on the rise, it's critical that we keep researching how to prevent and treat childhood cancers."

Since 1986, the Pine Tree Apple Tennis Classic has raised more than \$5.5 million for cancer research at Children's Minnesota. Through these efforts, Children's Minnesota has become internationally recognized for rare cancer and supportive care research which benefits children in Minnesota and throughout the world.



Source: Children's Minnesota



Children and teens will be diagnosed with cancer this year in the U.S.



Nearly two-thirds of childhood cancer survivors experience significant medical problems resulting from their original cancer treatment.



Early diagnosis of childhood cancers is difficult because symptoms are often similar to common ailments in kids.



The length of childhood cancer treatment ranges from 3 months to over 3 years.

Childhood cancer is the leading cause of death by disease in children and adolescents.

Supported Research Programs

Funds raised by the Pine Tree Apple Tennis Classic (PTATC) are used primarily to support research areas where there is little or no national attention and can be broken out into three main categories: DICER1 Rare Tumor Research, Preventing Cancer Treatment Side Effects and Promoting Quality of Life.

DICER1 Rare Tumor Research

While advancements are being made for the most common childhood cancers, the same is not true for rare tumors. Pleuropulmonary blastoma (PPB) is a rare but aggressive lung tumor that occurs in very young children, usually children under age 7. In 1987, PTATC began supporting the International PPB Registry. In 2011, PTATC funding helped launch the opening of the International Ovarian and Testicular Stromal Tumor (OTST) Registry to study additional rare childhood tumors. Under the leadership of Dr. Kris Ann Schultz, the Registries seek to define optimal care for children with these rare diseases and develop more effective and less toxic therapies for children and adults throughout the world.

Combined, the Registries have enrolled more than 600 individuals from more than 40 countries and are now considered the model for other rare tumor registries.

DICER1: The needle in the haystack. In 2009, work conducted by the PPB Registry led to the discovery of the first known relationship between human cancer and DICER1, a critical gene in cellular processes. With a nearly infinite number of possible gene sequences in the human body, the ability to isolate this mutation is groundbreaking. The DICER1 findings have implications throughout all cancer research.

In May 2016, over 60 attendees gathered at the Minneapolis campus of Children's Minnesota to discuss the biological, clinical and translational aspects of tumors related to DICER1. Medical professionals representing rare tumor groups from around the US, France, Canada, Germany, England and Russia discussed possible new and better treatment options for those diagnosed with the worst types of PPB. This work has the potential to impact many, many people – even those without PPB or ovarian tumors – and may help oncologists around the world understand how to treat a wide variety of other tumors. During this Symposium, new guidelines for the testing and surveillance of individuals with DICER1 were developed and refined. Using these guidelines, DICER1 tumors are now being found in their earliest and most curable form.

Preventing Cancer Treatment Side Effects

Going through cancer treatment is difficult at any age. But because kids' bodies are rapidly growing and developing while they undergo treatments such as chemotherapy and radiation, they are more susceptible to long-term side effects that can hinder physical, cognitive and emotional development. These impairments begin early in treatment and can cause physical limitations into adulthood.

Many children with the most common childhood cancers are surviving their diseases. In 1960, only 10% of children survived acute lymphoblastic leukemia (ALL), the most common type of childhood cancer. Today, over 90% of children diagnosed with ALL are cured. With survival rates rising, emphasis in pediatric oncology research is being placed not only on the cure but also on improving the long-term function of pediatric cancer survivors.

Dr. Laura Gilchrist has held a PTATC-endowed research position focused on this cause since it was established in 2007. Dr. Gilchrist and her team at Children's Minnesota collaborate with staff at other hospitals to do research designed to improve physical functional outcomes. They investigate issues that may arise due to treatment—such as muscle weakness, balance impairment, ankle contractures and neuropathy — a weakness, numbness and/or pain in hands and feet caused by nerve damage, estimated to occur in 80 percent to 90 percent of pediatric patients with cancer.

One focus is determining which changes persist long-term and which are preventable. Many families accepted such deficits as "normal" during cancer treatment. However, Dr. Gilchrist and her team have uncovered a number of interventions, including embedding physical therapy activity into patients' treatment plans, to bring fun, engaging activities that help patients lead an active lifestyle with their peers. This unique physical therapy program begun at Children's Minnesota and has now been implemented at many children's hospitals around the world.

Promoting Quality of Life

Childhood development is a dynamic process. If cancer and subsequent treatments occur during a critical point of development, the average development process may be interrupted. Many children with cancer are at risk for poor health-related quality of life and chronic health conditions. To address these issues and provide kids with the best opportunity to thrive during and after cancer treatment, care teams shared new research and approaches aimed at promoting resilience in childhood cancer patients and reducing illness and the stress of cancer and its treatment.

Dr. Alicia Kunin-Batson seeks to improve pediatric cancer survivors' quality of life during and after treatment, relieving families of their perception on the fear of what their child could or should do during cancer treatment, which may limit movement and exercise. Published research has shown adolescent survivors who reported being more active had significantly higher quality of life scores, and exercise not only to be safe and feasible during pediatric cancer treatment but that it can improve physical functioning and various aspects of quality of life.

Pine Tree Apple Tennis Classic Hall of Fame Award

Established in 1989, the Pine Tree Apple Tennis Classic (PTATC) Hall of Fame Award honors an individual or family that has made an outstanding and long-term contribution to the PTATC. Each recipient has shown significant dedication to the PTATC for more than three years. We are humbled by all those who have demonstrated such commitment and extend our sincere gratitude.

Pine Tree Apple Classic Fund Board

Past Year's Hall of Famers

1989 – Patty Kurtz	2004 - Bruce & Denise Humphrey
1990 – Mary Patterson	2005 - Willy & Patty Paulson
1991 – Colleen Richard	2006 - Susie Hanson
1992 – Linda Brandt	2007 - Sam Mairs
1993 – Nanc Westlund	2008 - Deb Meath
1994 – Jim & Ginny Anderson	2009 - Anne Zink
1995 – Mike & Kathy Fleming	2010 - The Jacobson Family
1996 – Judith & Jeff Young	2011 - Mary Cornell
1997 – Ric Yates	2012 – Debbie Daniels
1998 – Sandy Martin	2013 – Kevin Werwie
1999 – Paul Steinhauser	2014 – Chris Combs
2000 – Nancy Jacobson	2015 – Kris Premo
2001 – Jack Priest	2016 – Jerry and Mary Ann Kidd
2002 - Peg Brenden	2017 – Dr. Yoav Messinger
2003 - Barb Jacobson	2018 – Dan Shannon

2019 Pine Tree Apple Tennis Classic Hall of Fame Award: Denise Rutkowski



Ensuring the Pine Tree Apple Tennis Classic (PTATC) runs smoothly requires year-round planning and preparation from many volunteers spanning 15 different committees. Denise has stepped up to fill a variety of roles and responsibilities every year for the past 26 years! She has been a consistent and valued contributor to our mission and success and a very worthy representative as our 2019 Hall of Fame Award recipient.

Denise and her family relocated from Illinois to Minnesota in January 1994 and being an avid tennis player, she immediately joined White Bear Racquet and Swim. When she heard about this amazing event and cause, Denise volunteered to help at the PTATC the very first summer she was here. Meeting the children and families impacted by cancer was an extremely emotional experience for her. She went home and told her husband Larry that she wanted to get involved to make a difference. Not only was Larry supportive of Denise's involvement, both he and their daughter Jen came to the event and decided they wanted to get involved too.

Highlights of Denise's involvement over the years include:

- Merchandise Committee Chair for 6 years
- Auction Committee Chair for 2 years
- Co-Chair of the event for 3 years (2006-2008)
- Advisory Board member for 8 years
- In addition, Denise and Larry sponsor many players every year

Denise always asks how she can be of greatest value to fill gaps and support our overall goals as we kick off annual planning efforts. It has been an entire family affair with Denise saying, "What a great way to spend your time...helping to find a cure for childhood cancer."

**Please join us in
congratulating Denise
for her well-deserved
Hall of Fame award!**

Sportsmanship Award

To paraphrase a quote by Knute Rockne,

**“One person practicing
good sportsmanship
is far better than
fifty others
preaching it.”**

Each year since its inception in 2000, the Pine Tree Apple Tennis Classic (PTATC) Sportsmanship Award has been bestowed upon a player that exemplifies this spirit.

2000 – Kevin Werwie

2001 – Julia Mars

2002 – Mike Olson

2003 – Dan Shannon

2004 – Michelle Olson

2005 – Chris Combs

2006 – Mary Cornell

2007 – Marc Miller

2008 – Robin Coverdale

2009 – Craig Gordon

2010 – John Trondson

2011 – Justin Seim

2012 – Eric Donley

2013 – Imke Reimers

2014 – Bob Marolt

2015 – Katie Resch

2016 – Tobias Wernet

2017 – Julian Dehn

2018 – Marla Zitelman

Tournament History



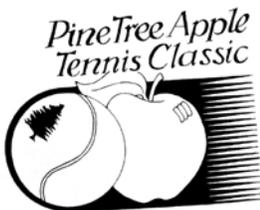
1986
 Chairs: Ron & Mary Peterson
 \$15,000 Raised
 Artist: Doug Ellis
 Tournament Winners:
 Janet McCutcheon & Bill Sternard



1987
 Chairs: Dan & Linda Aberg
 \$33,000 Raised
 Artist: Lisa Buck
 Tournament Winners:
 Jackie Moe & Mike Ach



1988
 Chairs: Colleen & Ken Richard
 \$44,000 Raised
 Artist: Lisa Buck
 Tournament Winners:
 Janet McCutcheon & Bill Sternard



1989
 Chair: Sue Wolsfeld
 \$70,000 Raised
 Artist: Tom Ashworth
 Tournament Winners:
 Andrea Holikova & Marc Miller



1990
 Chairs: Mike & Kathy Fleming
 \$118,000 Raised
 Artist: Lisa Buck
 Tournament Winners:
 Andrea Holikova & Marc Miller



1991
 Chairs: Ginny & Jim Anderson
 \$120,000 Raised
 Artist: Gail Speckmann
 Tournament Winners:
 Jacki Moe & Marc Miller



1992
 Chairs: Dick Blackburn,
 Ann Kochsiek, Linda Seierstad
 \$120,000 Raised
 Artist: Nanc Westlund,
 Visual Expressions
 Tournament Winners:
 Steve Paulsen & Claudia Brisk



1993
 Chairs: Laurie Blackwell,
 Joanie Mellgren, Jeff Young,
 Ric Yates
 \$130,000 Raised
 Artist: Kent Anderson, St.
 Croix Screen Printing
 Tournament Winners:
 Kevin Werwie &
 Cathy Birkeland



1994
 Chairs: Sandy Espe-Sorenson,
 Dave Sorenson,
 Paul Steinhauser, Todd Zabel
 \$148,000 Raised
 Artist: Lisa Buck
 Tournament Winners:
 Ross Loel & Dana Peterson



1995
 Chairs: Sandy Martin,
 Ann Helgeson, Steve King
 & Liz Jaeger
 \$166,292 Raised
 Artist: Troy Shilison
 Open:
 Kevin Werwie & Jackie Moe
 Masters:
 Ric Yates & Peg Brenden

Tournament History



1996

Chairs: Bruce & Denise Humphrey, Nancy Jacobson, Jamie Young

\$185,000 Raised

Artist: Pam Kurts

Open: Jackie Moe & Kevin Werwie

Masters: Peggy Brenden & Ric Yates



1997

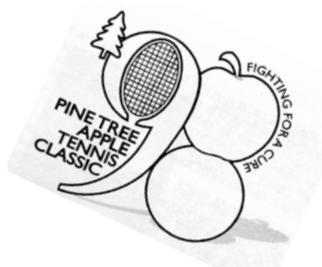
Chairs: Jim & Gail Menne, Deb Meath, Dave Kahl, Mary Cornell

\$164,000 Raised

Artist: Chris Dummermuth

Open: Robin Coverdale & Marc Miller

Masters: David Nash & Pam Sommer



1998

Chairs: Peg Brenden, Dottie Hoel, Carol Whitaker

\$170,000 Raised

Artist: Dick Stuck

Open: Kirstin Sanderson & Mike Husebo

Masters: Peg Brenden & Ric Yates



1999

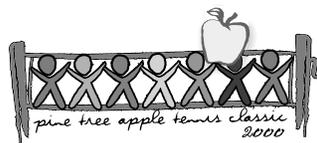
Chairs: Peg Kelly, Barbie Sheehan, Vicki Sperry, Deb Daniels

\$180,000 Raised

Artist: Joe Schroeder

Open: Alice Ransithienchai & Mike Husebo

Masters: Pam Sommer & David Nash



2000

Chairs: Bruce Vassar, Carol Danielson, Keith Erickson, Mike Greenbaum

\$170,000 Raised

Artist: Jennifer Vee

Open: Anne Gorde & Chris Combs

Masters: Pam Sommer & David Nash



2001

Chairs: Diane Pearson, Mary Patterson, Colby Carlson, Mike & Tonya Olson

\$212,000 Raised

Artist: Christopher Dow

Open: Chris Sheldon & Mickey Maule

Masters: Pam Sommer & Dave Nash



2002

Chairs: Jodi Brandtjen, Libby Brown, Sarah Kennedy, Brenda Werwie & Kevin Werwie

\$175,000 Raised

Artist: Joni Lantz

Open Division: Chris Sheldon & Mickey Maule

Masters Division: Fred Budde & Bernie McCann



2003

Chairs: Chris Combs, Sam Mairs, Deb Meath & Mary Patterson

\$223,000 Raised

Artist: Kent Anderson

Open: Chris Sheldon & Mickey Maule

Masters: Susan Rudd & Mark Brandenburg



2004

Chairs: Vickie Baker, Kate Booth, Trisha Connors, Layne McCleary, Lori Nichols

\$233,000 Raised

Artist: Jeff Hagen

Open: Chris Sheldon & Mickey Maule

Masters: Susan Rudd & Mark Brandenburg



2005

Chairs: Vickie Baker, Kate Booth, Trisha Connors, Layne McCleary, Lori Nichols

\$209,500 Raised

Artist: Jeff Hagen

Open: Chris Sheldon & Mickey Maule

Masters: Greg Wicklund & Kathy Hayden

Grand Masters:
Su Oertel & Ron York



2006

Chairs: Dean and Allison Hlushko, Layne McCleary, Denise Rutkowski

\$210,000 Raised

Artist: Kent Anderson

Open: Erik Donley & Meghan Donley Kimber

Masters: Marc Miller & Robin Coverdale

Masters 9.5:
Ron York & Su Oertel



2007

Chairs: Jenna Hedquist, Dean and Allison Hlushko, Kris Premo, Denise Rutkowski, Debbie Shearen

\$220,000 Raised,

Artist: Kent Anderson

Open: Chris Sheldon & Mickey Maule

Masters: Felicia Tebon & Dan Shannon

Masters 9.5: Bernie McCann & Fred Budde



2008

Chairs: Joe Miller, Kris Premo, Denise Rutkowski, Debbie Shearen,

\$189,000 Raised,

Artist: Kent Anderson, St. Croix Screenprinting

Open: Chris Sheldon & Mickey Maule

Masters: Felicia Tebon & Dan Shannon

Masters 9.5: Bernie McCann & Fred Budde



2009

Chairs: Joe Miller, Kris and Jessica Premo, Keri Pakonen, Debbie Shearen

\$163,000 Raised,

Artist: Jeff Hagen, St. Croix Screenprinting

Open: Imke Reimers & Erik Donley

Masters: Janet Hoffmann & Bill Sternard

Grand Masters:
Bernie McCann & Fred Budde



2010

Chairs: Joe Miller, Keri Pakonen, Jessica Premo, Kris Premo, Carly Schroeppfer

\$192,000 raised

Artist: Nels Femrite

Open: Imke Reimers & Erik Donley

Masters: Robin Coverdale & Marc Miller

Grand Masters: Bernie McCann & Fred Budde

Tournament History



2011

Chairs: Joe Miller,
Matt Narr, Keri Pakonen,
Carly Schroepfer

\$181,000 raised

Open: Lindsay Risebrough
& Harsh Mankad

Masters: Tory Borovsky &
Mehdi Benyebka

Grand Masters: Susan Rudd &
Dan Shannon



2012

Chairs: Joe Miller,
Keri Pakonen, Matt Narr,
Tricia Moorhead

\$170,000 raised

Open: Caitlin Burke & Ishay
Hadash

Masters: Geoff & Dana Young

Grand Masters: Susan Rudd &
Dan Shannon



2013

Chairs: Charice Crockarell,
Joe Miller, Jacquie Mudge,
Matt Narr

\$166,000 raised

Open: Erik Donley &
Imke Reimers

Masters: John Trondson &
Betsy Cionca

Grand Masters: Dan Shannon
& Susan Rudd



2014

Chairs: Charice Crockarell,
Joe Miller, Jacquie Mudge,
Matt Narr

\$199,000 raised

Open: Tony Larson &
Imke Reimers

Grand Masters: Dan Shannon
& Susan Rudd



2015

Chairs: Bruce & Denise
Humphery, Bill Jacobson,
Nancy Jacobson, Jamie Young

\$367,000 Raised

Open: Imke Reimers &
Mathieu Froment

Masters: Tory Borovsky &
Gordon Reid

Grand Masters:
Felicia Raschiatore &
Mike Olson

Masters 9.5:
Ron York & Su Oertel



2016

Chairs: Stephanie Davis,
Anne Krmpotich, Bob Marlot

\$254,000 Raised

Open: Alexa Palen &
Nick Crossley

Masters: Larissa Mavros &
Kevin Werwie

Grand Masters:
Felicia Raschiatore &
Mike Olson



2017

Chairs: Kathy Bjornson,
Stephanie Davis,
Bob Marolt, Katie Resch,
Susan Rudd

\$270,000 Raised

Open: Jessie Any &
Jack Hamburg

Masters - Larissa Mavros &
Kevin Werwie

Grand Masters: Susan Rudd
& Dan Shannon



2018

\$310,257 Raised

Open: Diana Bukajeva &
Andres Osorio

Masters: Meghan Kimber &
Kevin Werwie

Grand Masters: Susan Rudd
& Dan Shannon

2019 PTATC Committees

Food & Beverage

Mary Ann & Jerry Kidd
Patty & Willy Paulson
Wendy Homyak
Chris Peterson

Logistics

Barb Jacobson

Tournament Decor

Chandra Cook

Main Tennis Event

Tucker Combs

Merchandise

Bry Nagan

Patient Stories

Mike Brunner

Player Liaisons

Bob Marolt
Tricia Moorhead
Matt Narr
Jessa Richards
Tobias Wernet
Marla Zitelman

Tournament Program

Alisa Smith

Banners & Signs

Carly Schroepfer

Sponsorships

Denise Rutkowski
Nancy Jacobson
Kevin Werwie

Appreciation Party

Betty & Boy Toy (food)
Bridget Krein (decor)

Volunteers & Children's Crafts

Carla & Jason Albrecht

Tournament Photography

Mike Yates

Thank you for participating in the 2019 Pine Tree Apple Tennis Classic

Whatever your role...player, sponsor,
financial donor, volunteer or
spectator, we would love
to hear from you!

Please take a moment
to tell us what you like best
about this year's PTATC and offer any
suggestions for next year.



Go to PTACF.org to complete our brief survey.