

Cancer Survivors' Fund

News & Scenes

Spring
'05

Award Winners



Umut Unver

Winner of
*Courage and Determination
Award*

Umut graduated with honors this year from the University of Texas in Austin with a degree in Electrical Engineering and accepted an excellent position at INTEL.



Tiana Cornelius

Winner of
Optimism and Vision Award

Tiana graduated with honors last year from Barnard College with a degree in Econ/Math and continuing her studies at the Teacher's College of Columbia University.

A Celebration of Life *"From Surviving to Thriving"*

Heartfelt appreciation and thanks to all of our guests and supporters
We are growing because of you!

The Cancer Survivors' Fund held its third Annual Gala on the evening of April 22, 2005 at the Junior League in Houston. Over 270 guests attended this elegant event to celebrate the lives and success stories of the CSF students and observe the presentation of awards. Our students and Board Members were on hand to greet our guests. Fulbright & Jaworski LLP partners, Bridgeway Capital Management partners, Texas Children's Hospital staff, community leaders and local businessman were present to help us observe our 6th anniversary. The event raised over \$80,000 for the benefit of the CSF students.



Ronald G. Bliss

The late *Ronald G. Bliss* was honored, in loving memory, in the presence of his wife Charlene and their children Erik and Jason, as the "Inspirational Individual of the Year" for his impact on our students and for being such a strong role model for them. Ron's strength, courage, determination and love of life will be a guiding light for CSF students for many years to come.

Mr. Charles Walker, Jr., Ron Bliss' Fulbright & Jaworski LLP partner, recognized Ron Bliss' integrity, courage, eternal optimism, and told our guests how he inspired colleagues and friends to success and happiness regardless of his own hardships. Ron was a Vietnam War hero, who survived six and a half years in a North Vietnamese POW camp, and became very well known via the documentary "Return with Honor."

Dr. ZoAnn Dreyer, Chief of the Long-term Survival Clinic at Texas Children's Hospital was honored for her optimistic, caring, loving and tireless dedication to her work. Without her care and compassion many of the CSF students might not be alive today. CSF students Leandrew Salazar, Chris Rhodes and Camelia Cruz, her former patients presented Dr. Dreyer her award.



Dr. ZoAnn Dreyer with Camelia Cruz, Chris Rhodes and Lee Salazar



John Montgomery, President of Bridgeway Capital Management, Inc. accepting the Corporate Award on behalf of Bridgeway partners.

(Story Inside)

Cancer Survivors' Fund - Super Stars

Camelia Cruz



Charlene Bliss and Yeshim Yonter presenting Camelia Cruz "Ronald G. Bliss Outstanding Achievement Award" and \$10,000 Scholarship Check

Ronald G. Bliss Outstanding Achievement Award and Scholarship Winner

1. Criterion: Serving above self – Volunteer work
Camelia helped secure meals from local restaurants for Baytown Station I Firefighters twice a day for two weeks during Christmas 2004. She spent summer of 2004 helping Child-Life specialist at Texas Children's Hospital.
2. Criterion: Involvement in extra-curricular activities
Camelia served as Vice President of Service and Member of the Zeta Nu Chapter of Phi Theta Kappa. Member of Honors Council and Webb Society
3. Criterion: Academic performance
Camelia consistently maintained GPA of 3.90.

Camelia Cruz was diagnosed with osteogenic sarcoma at the age of 13. As a result of the cancer, she had her left leg amputated above the knee. She then underwent a course of chemotherapy that lasted twelve months. Although at age 13 those 12 months seemed like a lifetime to her, Camelia is overjoyed to say that she has been in remission for 14 years. She is an honor student attending Lee College in Baytown to realize her lifetime dream of becoming a Child-Life Specialist and helping the patients of Texas Children's Hospital.

In her own words: I am so blessed having known Ron Bliss and feel privileged to be the winner of Ronald G. Bliss Scholarship. After cancer my dreams and goals became making it to my next birthday. By the time I made it to my 18th birthday and

graduated from High School I knew college was out of the question but only due to finances. Cancer Survivors' Fund held my hand two years ago and made me believe that I was not a victim but a very brave young woman to survive cancer with a bright and happy future. Yeshim told me that the Cancer Survivors Fund would be taking care of the bill for my replacement prosthesis. Then, she asked me about my dreams and if I wanted to go to college. Well..., I am now a sophomore at Lee College and will transfer to University of Houston next year for the Spring Semester. Yeshim Yonter and the Cancer Survivors' Fund are my "Dream Makers" as they bring my dreams to life!



Ruth-Ann Fenske

Graduated w/ Honors May 2005
Medullary Thyroid Cancer Survivor
University of Texas
Journalism and Human Relations

Blake Boudreaux is a sophomore at Texas A&M University this year. He maintains a consistent GPA of 3.50. His long-term goal is to become an Attorney-At-Law following in the footsteps of Ron Bliss. Blake received the "Ronald G. Bliss Scholarship" at the CSF Gala for the second year in a row. Dr. Paul Salmonsens, of the Houston Eye Associates, calls him his "miracle

"Almost every person alive has much more within him than he could ever know. We all have met one in life who has looked inside us and somehow convinced us that we can be better and bigger than we are."

Ronald G. Bliss

Blake Boudreaux



Charlene Bliss and Yeshim Yonter presenting Blake his Ronald G. Bliss \$10,000 Scholarship check.

In his own words: Cancer has really impacted my values in life. I think it is extremely important to find a cure for cancer, educate our community on this dreaded disease and help people who have cancer and need assistance. Cancer has played a big part in my career goals. If I could see, I would have many more options and job opportunities; but, that is not the hand I was dealt in life. I feel I will always be disadvantaged because of my lack of sight; so, I know how important it is to get an education and have a degree. I am very fortunate to have Cancer Survivors' Fund on my side to help me achieve my dreams."



Umut Unver

Graduated w/ Honors May 2005
Osteogenic Sarcoma Survivor
University of Texas
Electrical Engineering

man." He was born with bilateral retinoblastoma, cancer of the eyes. At the age of 14 months, his left eye was removed. A year later numerous new cancerous tumors in his right eye, leaving him with only 5% vision. Blake prides himself on the fact he was the only blind football player Deer Park High School has ever had. His "beep baseball" team recently won the Regional Tournament.



OUR GRADUATES

2004

2005



Tiana Cornelius
Rhabdomyosarcoma Survivor
Columbia University
Economics and Math

Billy Watkins III
Testicular Cancer Survivor
University of Houston
Accounting

Ruth-Ann Fenske
Medullary Thyroid Cancer Survivor
University of Texas
Journalism

Umut Unver
Osteogenic sarcoma Survivor
University of Texas
Electrical Engineering

Our Present Students



Chris Rhodes
Lymphoma Survivor
Lamar College
Child-Life

Blake Boudreaux
Retinoblastoma Survivor
Texas A&M
Communications

Vanessa Kelly
Leukemia Survivor
University of Houston
Hotel Management

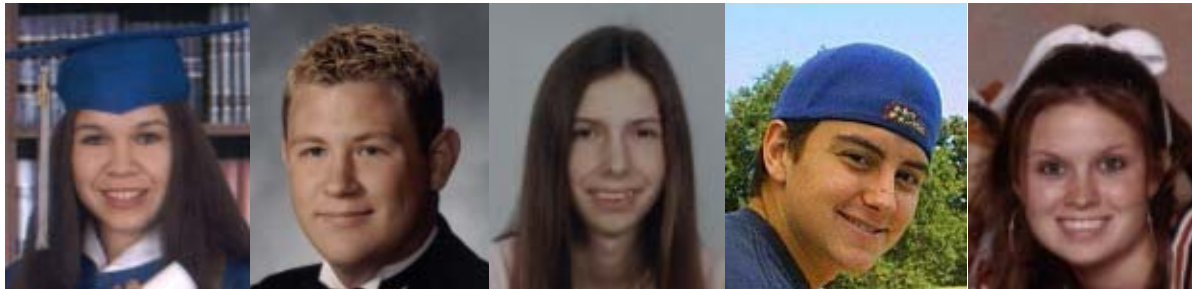
Camelia Cruz
Sarcoma Survivor
Lee College
Child-Life

Brian Kane
Wilm's Tumor Survivor
University of Texas
Business Administration

Lee Salazar
Leukemia Survivor
Houston Comm. College
Child-Life

The Bliss Bloomers

Through the graceful request of Ronald Bliss' family and generosity of their friends who sent in their contributions in lieu of sending flowers to his funeral, to the tune of \$25,000, CSF was able to grant eleven additional scholarships to deserving young cancer survivors for the 2005 Fall Semester. Your invaluable help is greatly appreciated!



Yennys Palomeque
Lymphoma Survivor
Texas Women's U.

Chris Hinders
Bone Tumor Survivor
Texas Christian U.

Jessica Sigle
Leukemia Survivor
Texas A&M at Galveston

Brandon Clayton
Sarcoma Survivor
University of Texas

Shannon McManus
Wilms Tumor Survivor
Texas A&M



Jared Lamb
Chiasmic Glioma
Southern Methodist U.

Chad Tremont
Lymphoma Survivor
San Jacinto College

Karen Liang
Sarcoma Survivor
Baylor University

Sonia Rebecca Munoz
Thyroid Carcinoma
Texas A&M

Joe Russell
Retinoblastoma Survivor

John Klinger
Brain Tumor Survivor
Tarrant College

CSF Students, Parents, Directors



*Brandon Clayton
with his mother Anita*



*Jared Lamb
with his parents John and Monica Lamb
CSF Directors Nora and Mike Aden*



*Yennys Palomeque
with her mother Elizabeth*



*CSF Director Bob Miller
Introducing the Students
Lee Salazar, Chris Rhodes, Jared Lamb*



*Karen Liang
with her mother Rosa*



*CSF Director Sema Turel
Umut Unver and Camelia Cruz*



*Jessica Sigle
with her mother Carolyn*

Gala Sponsors and Major Contributors

Your support is greatly appreciated. CSF is growing because of YOU!

Fullbright & Jaworski LLP	\$4,000.-	Baker & MacKenzie LLP	\$1,500.-
Bob Perry	\$3,000.-	Brock Financial Group, LLC	\$1,500.-
Misericordia	\$3,000.-	Elizabeth and Bob Brooks	\$1,500.-
Sandy and Hank Deshazer	\$3,000.-	Judy and Craig Fecel	\$1,500.-
Sterling Bank	\$3,000.-	Laura J. McMahon	\$1,500.-
Texas Children's Hospital	\$3,000.-	Laird Plastics, Inc.	\$1,500.-
FTI Consulting	\$2,500.-	Nora and Mike Aden	\$1,500.-
Richard Wilkes	\$2,500.-	Regions Bank	\$1,500.-
Bridgeway Capital Management	\$1,650.-	Schlumberger	\$1,500.-
Abby and Daniel Yates	\$1,500.-	Suzanne and Jim Nawrocki	\$1,500.-
Aden-Powell Trust	\$1,500.-	Howard T. Tellepsen, Jr.	\$1,000.-
Amicon Plastics	\$1,500.-	Kelley and Brent Southwell	\$1,000.-
Ann and Jeff Dykes	\$1,500.-	Regina Rogers	\$1,000.-

Our heartfelt thanks are also extended to silent auction contributors and bidders for helping us to raise \$17,460.

A Brief History

Cancer Survivors' Fund is a young organization, founded in 1999 by Yeshim Yonter who is a veteran volunteer at the MD Anderson Cancer Center. Her motherly instincts and having been a two-time cancer survivor herself directed her into this noble mission. She encourages the young patients to fight for their lives and win, and urges each of them to build a dream of their own. She has been their mentor, coach, friend, dream-maker since the first day that she met each of them. CSF provides scholarships and prosthetic appliances to young cancer survivors and opportunities to encourage volunteerism and teamwork, and instills leadership qualities. CSF teaches them to share themselves, their time and energy, and helps them to grow emotionally and spiritually.



John Montgomery, President and CEO of Bridgeway Capital Management Inc. distinguishes the organization by assigning it a mission embracing an extraordinary objective: "to support charitable services, nurture educational services, improve the quality of community life." **John Montgomery and Bridgeway partners** were honored as they have been avid supporters and "the wind beneath the wings" of the Cancer Survivors' Fund. If it were not for their sincere interest, belief and continuous support, CSF would not have been able to endure the difficult early years.

Nora and Mike Aden & Elizabeth and Bob Brooks Mike, Nora and Bob and Jim Nawrocki (not pictured) who are long-time friends of Ron Bliss, joined our Board of Directors in February. CSF experienced a quantum leap through their dedicated and invaluable efforts.

The exquisite center pieces and flower arrangements were designed and donated by CSF Director Marcia Wilson, the owner of Breen's Florist.

Scenes from 2005 Gala



*Charles Walker, Jr.
Sharing his memories with
Ronald G. Bliss*



*Charlene Bliss accepting
"Inspirational Individual of the Year"
Award*



*Yeshim Yonter presenting bouquet
to Mrs. John R. Brown,
Honoray Committee Chair*



*Mike Yonter and David Busbee with
Brian Kane and his mother Judith
Brian is studying at University of Texas*



*Steve Smith, emcee of the evening
with Jo Murphy*



*Honorary Chair Mrs. John R. Brown with
Layne and Gayle Kruse and Jeff Dykes
Fulbright Attorneys*

Cancer Survivors' Fund

P.O. Box 792
Missouri City, TX 77459

Board of Directors

Yeshim Yonter
Chair
Mike Aden
Nora Aden
Robert P. Brooks
David G. Busbee
Robert H. Miller
Surender Talwar
Sema Turel
Charles Walker, Jr.
Billy Watkins III
Marcia Wilson
Michael Yonter

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Audra Moore
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Graham Painter
Mike Rome
Michael Roy
D'Lisa Simmons
Kerry Walker

*To learn more about CSF please
visit:*

www.cancersurvivorsfund.org

or email, call:

info@cancersurvivorsfund.org
281-437-7142

Online Donations: www.cancersurvivorsfund.org

Working together, we are changing one life at a time.



CSF Board with Students at the Fund Raising Gala - April 22, 2005

CSF draws its strength from a dedicated Board of Directors (THE ACTION TEAM), sponsors, supporters and volunteers who believe in our cause. We presently support twenty students, with plans to add ten more this year.