



EDITORS

Leisa Duff
Executive Director
Friends of the Saint Louis
University Liver Center
lduff@friendsofthelulc.org

Lou Ann Biermann, RN, MSN
Administrative Manager,
The Saint Louis University
Liver Center
liverctr@slu.edu

INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

Naomi Judd Award & Volunteer of the Year Award Recipients	2
Special Thanks & How Can You Help?	3
Fun with Friends in 2019	4
End of Year letter	5
CALENDAR OF EVENTS	6

Friends & SLULC news

17th Annual Diamonds Gala "Reaching for the Stars"

Guests arrived in cocktail attire for the 17th Annual Diamonds Gala "Reaching for the Stars" on Saturday, October 26, 2019 at the Chase Park Plaza St. Louis.

Rene Knott, of NewsChannel 5, served as the Emcee and Auctioneer. Opening remarks were made by Rochelle Henderson, Chairperson of the Board. Dr. Bruce Bacon, Co-Director of the Saint Louis University Liver Center, shared some of the great things taking place at the Liver Center which have been made possible from Friends donations. "We celebrate that there is finally a cure for Hepatitis C, but there are still so many other forms of liver disease that need continuous research, so that new technologies can be discovered and applied to the medical care of patients and ultimately find cures for all" said Dr. Bacon. Keynote speaker presentations were given by Dr. Brent Tetri, Gastroenterology/Hepatology, on the Progress in NASH and Dr. Mustafa Nazzal, Transplant Surgery, on Success in Transplant.

A wonderful three course dinner was served and Dr. Ajay Jain received the "Naomi Judd Award" for Excellence in Research. The presentation was followed by a live auction, and raffle winners were announced. The Gala raised over \$396,000 in corporate and donor support.

The "Diamonds Gala" is the Friends of SLU Liver Center's annual and major fundraiser, which supports the research efforts of the world-renowned Saint Louis University Liver Center for the treatment and cure of liver diseases, and promotes understanding and awareness of liver disease. All money raised stays in the St. Louis area to perform life-saving research which helps patients with liver disease nationwide.



Dr. Brent Tetri, Keynote Speaker
presenting Dr. Ajay Jain with the
"Naomi Judd Award"



Interventional Radiology physicians/
guests, SSM Health SLU Hospital



Saint Louis University Liver Center
Clinical Staff and guests

Have you considered Leaving a Legacy?

Donations come in all shapes and sizes. Supporting the Friends through a financial commitment can be one of the most impactful ways to help CURE liver disease.

Many treatments that benefit today's patients are the result of life-saving research that was funded by others who included liver research in their estate plans.

You can help shape the future and leave your mark on tomorrow by making a provision for Friends in your will or trust. Through your will or trust you can leave:

- A specific amount or a percentage of your estate*
- All or part of what remains in your estate after all other bequests are made*
- A conditional gift if beneficiaries do not outlive you.*

As the year comes to a close, please consider naming Friends as a beneficiary in an insurance or retirement account, or donating stocks.

**Please contact the Friends office at (314) 576-3078
to learn how to connect your legacy to Friends of the Saint Louis University Liver Center!**

CONGRATULATIONS TO DR. AJAY JAIN 2019 NAOMI JUDD AWARD RECIPIENT



Ajay Jain, MD

Dr. Ajay Jain is one of the rising stars in liver disease research at Saint Louis University. He completed his medical education in New Delhi, India, and came to the US to complete his residency in pediatrics at the Medical College of Georgia. He then completed his advanced fellowship training in pediatric gastroenterology, hepatology, and nutrition at Baylor College of Medicine in Houston. While at Baylor, he also conducted further post-doctoral research in the laboratory of David Moore, developing his interest in parenteral (intravenous) nutrition-induced liver disease.

Saint Louis University was fortunate to recruit him as a faculty member in 2009 to continue his research in understanding pediatric liver disease while also caring for children with all forms of liver disease. He has rapidly advanced academically and is currently a tenured Associate Professor in the Department of Pediatrics, the Medical Director of the Pediatric Liver Transplant program at Cardinal Glennon Hospital, and Associate Division Director of Pediatric Gastroenterology, Hepatology and Nutrition in the SLU Department of Pediatrics. During his ten years at SLU, he has received numerous research awards, most recently the Stanley Dudrick award for research excellence, as well as accolades for his outstanding

clinical care of children including the "Best Doctor" award this year.

His research has been funded by NIH and a variety of foundations as well as the SLU Liver Center. His laboratory work continues to be focused on understanding why parental nutrition can cause liver damage in children. Meeting the nutritional needs of children can sometimes only be accomplished with intravenous feeding because of damage to the intestines from a variety of causes. Children who rely on intravenous feeding sometimes develop severe liver damage and Dr. Jain has developed innovative research techniques to understand why this occurs and how it can be prevented.

His service at a national level includes chairing the Research Committee of the American Society for Parenteral and Enteral Nutrition (ASPEN), serving on the board of ASPEN, and serving as a member of the Liver Review Board of the United Network for Organ Sharing (UNOS)/Organ Procurement and Transplant Network (OPTN). He is an active member of the NIH-supported NASH Clinical Research Network and is currently enrolling children into a treatment trial for NASH. At SLU he also serves on multiple academic and practice committees and chairs the Nutrition Advisory Committee at Cardinal Glennon Hospital. For these reasons and more, Dr. Jain is this year's recipient of the SLU Liver Center Naomi Judd Award for Excellence in Research. ***Congratulations Dr. Jain!***

CONGRATULATIONS TO KARL REINLEIN VOLUNTEER OF THE YEAR

Karl Reinlein spent most of his professional career in the Mortgage Banking industry and the majority of his time focused in commercial lending.

Karl has been a voice promoting the Friends mission and helping raise funds for liver research since last year shortly after his life saving liver transplant at the SSM Health Saint Louis University Hospital. Karl and his family joined us at last year's Diamonds Gala, just weeks after his liver transplant, and he has been a huge blessing to the Friends of the Saint Louis University Liver Center ever since.

Karl has demonstrated a genuine interest and involvement in the Friends mission of supporting research and raising awareness of liver disease. He has shared his personal journey with NASH, the transplant process and his recovery. This year, through a letter writing campaign to his close personal friends and family, Karl was able to raise a considerably amount of funding for the study of NASH/Transplant research at the Saint Louis University Liver Center!

Karl's positive attitude, thankful spirit and his desire to give back has made a huge impact for research at the Saint Louis University Liver Center. The Friends of the Saint Louis University Liver Center extend our sincere gratitude and appreciation to Karl for sharing his story and for the *Friend* he has become!

Congratulations Karl!



Karl Reinlein

Thank You!

SPECIAL THANKS TO OUR 2019 FRIENDS!

Special Thanks to
CENTENE
Charitable Foundation
 for their \$100,000
 contribution in support of
 research for
 NASH and Transplant!
We greatly appreciate



Liver Luau Sponsors:
 Incentive Concepts
 The St. Louis Trust Company
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2020 date soon to be announced!

11th annual
 SHOOT FOR A CURE
 June 1, 2019
 at Strathalbyn Farms Club



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 The Reinlein's & St. Louis Bank

Friends of the Saint Louis University Liver Center
 raise money to support the research efforts of
 the Saint Louis University Liver Center for
 the treatment and cure of liver diseases, and to
 promote understanding & awareness of liver disease.

SAVE THESE 2020 DATES!
 12th annual
 SHOOT FOR A CURE
 April 25th
 Strathalbyn Farms Club

17th Annual Diamonds Gala
 October 26, 2019
 At the Chase Park Plaza



How Can You Help the Friends of SLULC? Be a Sponsor - Be a Volunteer



Volunteers are the backbone of the Friends of the SLULC!

Whether you are interested in becoming a sponsor or want to answer phones, stuff envelopes or serve on a planning committee, we have volunteer opportunities available. You may volunteer as an individual or bring a group of friends. Please complete and fax this form to 314-576-3654 or mail to the Friends office.

A representative will contact you soon!

☐ Yes, I am interested in learning more about sponsorship opportunities! Please contact me with more information.

☐ Yes, I am interested in volunteering! Please contact me with more information.

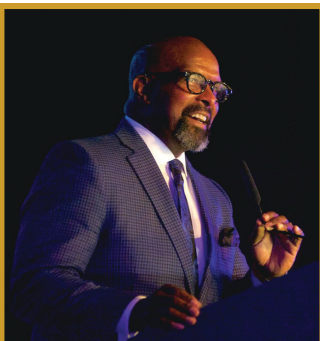
Name _____ Home Phone _____ Work Phone _____

Address _____ Cell Phone _____ Email _____

City, State, Zip _____ Best way to reach you _____

Times you are available to volunteer: _____

Fun with Friends in 2019



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Paul Azzara, Secretary

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Tim Eggleston
David Helms
Mark Johnson
Abdul Wadood

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Bruce R. Bacon, MD
Lou Ann Biermann, RN, MSN

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Leslie Hodges
Annie McDermott
Maura McNamara
Joe Reinberg
Jennifer Sanwald
Jess Zvanut

Executive Director

Leisa Duff

Development Assistant

Laurie Mallon

December, 2019

Dear Friends,

As this year comes a close, it's a time to give thanks and reflect on the things made possible through your generosity. We deeply appreciate the support from our Board, Sponsors, Individual Donors and our Volunteers. We are grateful to those who attended our fundraising events, Shoot for a Cure and the annual Diamonds Gala. These events promoted understanding and awareness of liver disease while raising much needed funds for liver research.

The impact of charitable contributions is measurable and we'd like to share a few things which have been supported by our generous contributions to Friends of the Saint Louis University Liver Center:

- A total of **42 Liver Center Seed grants** have been awarded to Liver Center members through a Request for Applications process. These directed research grants were established to provide bridge or seed grant funding to investigators while they work toward developing their projects, gathering preliminary data allowing them to submit external grant applications and publish their results. These seed grants generated an additional 32 externally funded foundation awards totaling over \$20 million which represents more than a 16 fold, return on investment.
- Over \$140,000 has been utilized for the purchase of research supplies and equipment for nine different labs.
- Over \$130,000 was used for the purchase of capital equipment for the basic science laboratories of the Liver Center investigators.
- Three Summer Research Fellowships were awarded, totaling \$10,500

These things are not possible without community support, donations of all levels! Your support is critical in continuing cutting edge research.

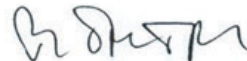
We ask you to please consider making an end of the year tax deductible contribution to Friends of the Saint Louis University Liver Center. A gift of \$1,000+ will place you in our **VISTA SOCIETY** with special recognition. Please see enclosed donation form or contribute online at www.friendsofthelulc.org/make-a-donation.

We look forward to hearing from you and we wish you a Happy and Healthy Holiday Season!

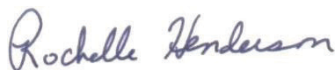
Sincerely,



Bruce R. Bacon, M.D.
Co-Director, Saint Louis University Liver Center
James F. King MD Endowed Chair in Gastroenterology
Professor of Internal Medicine
Saint Louis University School of Medicine



Brent Tetri, M.D.
Co-Director, Saint Louis University Liver Center
Associate Chairman for Clinical Studies
Professor of Internal Medicine
Saint Louis University School of Medicine



Rochelle Henderson, PhD
Chairperson, Board of Directors
Friends of the Saint Louis University Liver Center



Leisa Duff
Executive Director
Friends of the Saint Louis University Liver Center

Friends of the Saint Louis University Liver Center

Leisa Duff, Executive Director
14323 So. Outer 40, Suite 200M
Phone 314-576-3078
Fax 314-576-3654
Website: <http://friendsofthelulc.org>

Saint Louis University Liver Center

3635 Vista at Grand
St. Louis, MO 63110-0250
Phone: 314-577-8764
Fax: 314-577-8125
Website: <http://livercenter.slu.edu>

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Leisa Duff, Executive Director
Laurie Mallon, Development Assistant

WE ARE LOOKING FOR VOLUNTEERS!

BE PART OF OUR TEAM:

314-576-3078

GENEROUS GIVING
HELPING CHARITY ALTRUISTIC
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There's a place For YOU!

What's on the Calendar?

- *April 25, 2020 Shoot for a Cure, Strathalbyn Farms Club, Weldon Spring, MO
- *October 17, 2020 Diamonds Gala, the Chase Park Plaza, St. Louis, MO
- *November 13-17, 2020 AASLD—The Liver Meeting, Boston, MA

For information on Friends events:

p: 314-576-3078

www.friendsofthelulc.org



Special Thanks to our newsletter Sponsor



SSMHealth

Saint Louis University Hospital