



With Members in Mind

As Americans, we live in a world where we are bombarded daily via telephone, email and facsimile with offers to join a group, follow a trend or become part of a cause. With all of this exposure to so many “exclusive” opportunities, as consumers we have become keen to ask, “What is in it for me?” and “Is there really a benefit to signing up?”

MEMBER 'mem-bər

n. A distinct part of a whole. (membership) – The state of being a member.

Brent A. Evans

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Membership needs to carry with it some unique feature that cannot be gained elsewhere. The privileges extended by a group can be quite satisfying and reward those who have made a commitment to the demands of becoming a member.

Recently many of you, Oncology Associates’ members, were asked to comment on the level of satisfaction you felt with regard to OA’s services. It was reassuring to read that the results of the survey showed nearly 80% of you are very satisfied with the added value OA offers to your practice.

Although it is nice to hear the good news, I also focus on what can be done to satisfy

those who did not respond or who are somehow not satisfied in one way or another. For OA members, it is our intent to provide the best educational opportunities, inform on the latest changes in legislation/reimbursement and of course, secure a competitive financial

advantage through product agreements.

As we enter the fourth quarter of 2005, OA’s plans are being finalized for the attack on 2006. I have heard from a cross section of members at the recent OA Physician Member Conference in Providence, RI (see summary on page 23) as to their needs and desires for services. But to truly serve your distinct needs, I need to hear from you about your current concerns and problems.

In contacting me and expressing what you want, I can work to provide those features that are unique and unobtainable elsewhere to you. Please do so by email at bevans@rcmed.com, via telephone at 888-732-7352 or facsimile 440-995-1540. OA is proud to be your group purchasing organization of choice and I thank you for your commitment to membership. **OA**

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Celebration of Life



Adela Philips, OA member and Oncology Nurse with Associates in Cancer Care in Ft.

Myers, FL has been active in her local ONS chapter for several years. The Gulf Coast Chapter holds an annual event each June called, **Celebration of Life**.

Celebration of Life is an all-day event honoring local cancer survivors, their families and friends. The event features guest motivational speakers, contests and good fun.

According to Adela, “We feature uplifting and motivating speakers for our special day. One year, we had woman’s golf champion Patty Berg speak for us.” This year, over 200 people participated, showing their support of the local cancer community.

This has been the eighth consecutive year for **Celebration of Life**. Adela and her chapter work with local businesses to support the event. These businesses donate generous gifts and door prizes.

The Gulf Coast Chapter has oncology nurse members from three different Florida counties and consists of nurses in the private clinic, hospital and hospice. The chapter prides itself on supporting patients’ special financial needs through fundraisers and a generous benefactor. One such program is called “Patrick’s Wish.” Any oncology nurse identifying a patient with a financial need can give the patient a form to fill out and apply for assistance to the local chapter.

Oncology Associates encourages you to join your local ONS Chapter and become involved in the cancer community. For more information on how to join, contact ONS Headquarters at 866-257-4667.