



Ben's Buddies Newsletter

August 2009, Volume 6

Ben's Buddies is a non profit, 501(c)(3) organization dedicated to raising money for the Benjamin Walker Hanson Neonatology Fund - a perpetually endowed fund supporting research and education in the Neonatology Division (newborn medicine) of the Department of Pediatrics at the University of Minnesota

Ben's Buddies mission is to empower and support families and friends who have suffered the loss of a child while raising funds for newborn research and education.

Spotlight

Ben's Buddies 4th Annual Charity Golf Tournament

Sunday, September 13th at
Majestic Oaks Golf Club, Ham Lake MN

Schedule of Events

7:30 am - 8:15 am - registration and continental breakfast

8:30 am - shotgun scramble start

1:00 pm - all you can eat brunch buffet

2:00 pm - awards ceremony

The individual golfer fee of \$105 includes:

Greens fees, power cart, contests and prizes at many holes, including a hole-in-one contest, continental breakfast, a fabulous brunch buffet, and a goody bag.

Raffle tickets are available at \$1 each. There are many great raffle prizes this year.

Register at www.bensbuddies.org by 9/1/09 to secure your spot.

Sponsorships

Hole sponsorships at \$250 are still available for the tournament. Consider sponsoring a hole to promote your business or as a memorial to a loved one. Ben's Buddy sponsorships which include a business card size ad in our program are available at \$150. Go to our website for more information on sponsorships.

Direct donations in any amount are always welcome. Sponsorships and direct donations may be made with a credit card at www.bensbuddies.org or send your check to

Ben's Buddies, 791 Carla Lane, Little Canada, MN 55109.

Our Community

Al Farmes of Coldwell Banker Burnet Realty has generously offered to donate to Ben's Buddies 20% of his commission from any completed real estate transaction where his *client mentions Ben's Buddies*. To date Al has sold 2 homes resulting in significant donations to Ben's fund.

Contact Al at **763-412-1262**

Email: AEFarmes@CBBurnet.com

Maria Jondahl of Lakeland Mortgage Corporation. has generously agreed to donate to Ben's Buddies 20% of her commission from any closed loan transaction where the *client mentions Ben's Buddies*. Maria has recently completed a transaction and made a generous donation to Ben's Buddies.

Contact Maria at **763-422-0888**

Email: mjondahl@lakelandmortgage.com

Chris Hickman of Ameriprise Financial Services, Inc. for his sponsorship of Ben's Buddies. Chris has generously offered to donate \$25 if a prospective client meets with him and *mentions Ben's Buddies*.

Contact Chris at **651-635-1721**

Email: christopher.j.hickman@ampf.com

Ben Winchester and Tara Schmidt wanted their wedding day to be meaningful and simple, a true testament to their love for each other. Although the ceremony was private, they knew that friends and family would want to send well wishes and gifts. Selflessly, they asked friends and families to give donations to Ben's Buddies in lieu of wedding gifts to the Winchesters. Ben and Tara married in December of 2008 and donations in honor of their marriage have totaled over **\$2,500 for Ben's Fund**. Congratulations Ben and Tara and thank you for your thoughtfulness and generosity!

Ben's Buddies is truly blessed and honored to have you all as part of the Ben's Buddies community.

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Volunteers

Ben's Buddies is very grateful for the support we receive from all of our volunteers. This year is no exception. A special thank to all who have volunteered their time at the Ben's Buddies Golf Tournament or the Ben's Buddies Birthday Bash.

There are still a few needs for volunteers at the golf tournament on September 13th at Majestic Oaks. The volunteers help out by greeting the golfers at the hole, selling raffle tickets and mulligans, and monitoring the contests. We also need volunteers at the registration table in the morning and at the sales table during the brunch buffet and event program. Please e-mail barb@bensbuddies.org if you are interested in volunteering.

Updates

Ben's Buddies Birthday Bash

This year's Birthday Bash was an incredible success! Thank you so much to the families who joined us and allowed us the honor of celebrating the birthdays of their children as well along with Ben's and to those who donated items for the raffle and silent auction. Special thanks to the Two Dirty Nellys for providing such incredible music to accompany the evening. This event raised over \$2,000 for the Benjamin Walker Hanson Neonatology Fund.

This is a very special event that will continue to provide parents an opportunity to talk about and celebrate their beloved and missed children. Visit our website to see pictures of the event and learn more about the children celebrated.

If you know of a family who would like to celebrate their child's birthday at the 2010 Ben's Buddies Birthday Bash or who would like to receive information on this organization please contact Kate Hanson at kate@bensbuddies.org

News

A member of the Ben's Buddies community needs our help. Ben's cousin, Aiden Baum was born July 11th 2007 and was diagnosed immediately with hydrops. He only survived a few hours. Aiden's family has been part of the Ben's Buddies community since its inception.

Recently Aiden's dad Corey Baum has been diagnosed with a very rare form of brain cancer. He has undergone surgery at the Mayo clinic and is now receiving both chemo and radiation. Even though the family has insurance the medical bills are mounting.

A benefit pancake breakfast and silent auction will be held on Saturday, January 9th, 2010 from 8 to 10 am at Applebee's Bar & Grill, 1335 Town Center Drive in Eagan. The cost is \$6 a plate.

Please mark your calendars and join us in supporting the Baum family through this very difficult time.

Merchandise

Ben's Buddies Cookbook

This cookbook contains over 350 recipes submitted by Ben's family and friends. Over 250 cookbooks have been sold and the cookbook is now in its 2nd printing.

Cookbooks are available at Ben's Buddies events for \$10.00 or through the mail at \$15.00. Please see our website for more details or mail your request and payment to

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Little Canada, Mn 55109.

Please visit our website at www.bensbuddies.org or contact us at info@bensbuddies.org for more information about Ben's Buddies and our events.