

# Peregrine Provides

St. Louis  
Peregrine Society  
2343 Hampton Ave.  
St. Louis, MO 63139  
314-781-6775  
Fax: 314-781-6494  
www.peregrinesoc.org  
Also see Peregrine Society on Facebook

## Services Provided in 2023

New Referrals	1,049
Clients Served	2,032
Home Deliveries	2,946
Supplements Delivered (cans)	187,127
Transportation to Treatments	4,611
Prescriptions Provided	132
Medical Supplies Distributed	33,653
Equipment Loaned	35

Service to  
Cancer Patients  
Since 1949

## Mission Statement

The St. Louis Peregrine Society is dedicated to improving the quality of life of cancer patients living in the St. Louis area.

# The Peregram *Summer, 2024 Vol. 3*

## Ahh...Summer

At Peregrine we love summer but, so far, ours has been a mixed bag of events.

We began strong with the 32nd Peregrine sponsored trip to Branson Missouri. 21 families joined our happy group for a three day fun-filled road trip. Finally, after four years, the trip felt back to normal, as in pre-pandemic days. We think it might just have been the best trip ever! Well, actually, we think that after every trip.

This year we visited all of our favorite venues ... Grand Oaks Hotel; Dolly Parton's Stampede; Silver Dollar City and Incredible Pizza(Springfield).

There were some new stops as well ... lunch on Saturday was at Chick-Fil-A in Springfield and it couldn't have gone smoother. They were a last minute entry on the itinerary and we have to say, we are big fans. Their system for taking orders, getting the food to the tables is nothing short of impressive. Sunday evening dinner was at Paula Deen's restaurant on Branson Landing. The staff got all 100 of us seated with food on the table just minutes after our arrival. And they were able to accommodate special request dietary restrictions without batting an eye.

The Branson trip story wouldn't be complete without giving a shout out to the wonderful staff at Grand Oaks Hotel. Thank you Kathy Tedder, Group Sales Coordinator, Marlene Caldwell, Director of Group Sales and Mike, Front Desk Manager, for making us feel so welcome and loved. Look forward to seeing you all next year!

May 23 was an unexpected summer low with much to be grateful for as well. See the Accident Update on this page.

The rest of the summer should be low key

for the Peregrine staff. The annual fall fundraising mailer is being tweaked and finalized. 2025 Trivia Night discussions are ongoing. Date and location have been secured - *March 15, 2025 at Electrical Workers' Hall*. Some shopping has already begun for Christmas gifts that will go into the packages delivered to patients in December. (See *Secret Santa article inside*.) Many of our talented volunteers have already brought us beautiful handmade items for the gift bags as well. And we will all enjoy some time off to reconnect with family and friends.

We hope your summer is a bit like ours ... filled with high marks (without the lows), lots of activities and enough calm, lazy days sprinkled in to help you recharge and reconnect. (See *Branson photos inside and on the Peregrine Society Facebook page*.)

## Accident Update



On May 23rd a woman driving west on Hampton, lost control of her car and crashed into our building which was heavily damaged.

Thankfully, no one was injured. So much to be grateful for as

Laura's desk sits just to the left of the point of impact. We are still dealing with insurance, inspectors and contractors but hope to have all of that finalized in the next few weeks. Many of you saw the accident on the morning news and all of your calls checking to make sure we were okay were greatly appreciated!

## First Impressions of Branson Trip 2024

The Branson Trip was a wonderful experience! It was exciting to see everything come together for the weekend after weeks of planning, corresponding with the families, and getting all the paperwork in order. It was great to finally meet, in person, everyone I had been speaking with over the phone and communicating with through email. Despite a few hiccups beyond our control, the trip went very smoothly! Families were having a good time; the weather was great; bus drivers were helpful; Grand Oaks Hotel and Silver Dollar City were accommodating and generous with their assistance and offerings. I feel very fortunate and blessed to have had the opportunity to participate in the trip with all these families and look forward to doing it in the future!

*Julie*

(Julie joined the Peregrine Staff as a part-time assistant in January 2024 and worked extensively with the families going on the Branson Trip.)



Julie (hat & purple t-shirt) with the Bolduc Family, Zephany, Jennifer & Richard on their way to ride Fire in the Hole.

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**Vice Chairman:**  
 Marianne Powers  
**Secretary:**  
 Joan Noser  
**Treasurer:**  
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**Staff**  
 Shari Cunningham - Executive Director  
 Laura McQuay - Patient Services Coordinator  
 Julie Esswein - Office Assistant

Shari Cunningham, Editor

## From the Executive Director ... *Impactful Giving*

How do you know the impact of your charitable gift? Not an unreasonable question for any donor to ask. Results are generally the answer. But how do you quantify that? In general by the numbers but that doesn't always tell the entire story.

At the end of each year, we tally up the figures on the services provided and share that information with you, our supporters, on the cover of each Peregram. Those figures show the "how much" Peregrine services provide over the course of a year. They don't begin to show the impact those services have on an individual cancer patient's journey. But letters do.

*"I am writing this letter to thank the St. Louis Peregrine Society for the assistance that was provided to my patient over the years. It is with deep sadness that I am letting you know she passed away in September. She was diagnosed with chronic lymphatic leukemia in 2001 but successfully fought her disease for well over a decade with the help your society provided. During that time, she was able to remain active in the community and the choir she loved dearly."* Dr. Morey Blinder, 10/2013

*"We just wanted to send you a card to express our thanks in regard to your recent delivery of Boost drinks for our Dad. As you know, nutritional drinks make up a large part of the diet of many cancer patients. Because you provided us with so many drinks, we will have one less worry during these next few weeks. Thank you from the bottom of our hearts. Your organization means so much to our entire family. Thank you."* Reiher Family 8/2018

*"I want to thank you so much for all the wonderful things your organization does to make my life easier! I am a cancer patient at SLU and am unable to drive. Your free rides to and from my treatments are a true lifesaver. Thank you all so very much!"*

M. Rachas 12/2023

These letters quantify the impact of your donations on cancer patients in our community. Their words say it more meaningfully than I could. In a few weeks, you will receive our annual fundraising appeal. Your donations make all that we do, all that we accomplish possible. Thank you for your continued support.

*Shari*

## Branson Photos May 18-20, 2024



*3 days of nothing but smiles:)*

## **Tributes In honor of ...**

**In Celebration of the 50th Wedding  
Anniversary of  
Rod & Lavean Widger**  
Connie Reifsteck

## **Memorials In memory of ...**

**Ida Armstrong**  
Raymond G. Armstrong, Ph.D.

**Raoul S Anderson**  
Jan & Tim Cerny

**Edna Rose Aten**  
Rosemary Bialecke

**Mary L. Baumann**  
Robert A. Baumann

**Gerry Boedges**  
Thomas Thompson

**Michael K. Boyle**  
Marion White

**Ruth "Mo" Camden**  
Ben & Daniel Hagen  
Marissa Hackerson  
Rosie & Nicholas Camden

Eric, Drew & Elaine Hoffner  
Brian & Lauren Otten

**Virginia Cooke**  
Frances Kish

**Stephen Ditch**  
Debbie Ditch

**Our Mothers on Mother's Day,  
Doris Dolson; Celeste Uthoff**  
George & Bonnie Dolson

**Geraldine & George Foster**  
Barbara Foster

**Joanne George**  
Thomas George

**Hildagarde Louise Gouch**  
Carol Sovar

**Homer Hayes, Marie Riney,  
Gerald Sutterer**

Norman & Sharon Sutterer  
**Eugene P. Heumann**

Barb & Bob Kemper  
**Robert & Millie Hopkins**  
Floyd & Delores Needham

**Matthew Howell**  
Ellis & Margaretta Howell

**William 'Bill' Jaworowski**  
Jim Gibilterra & Jean  
James Gibilterra

**Art Larson**  
Barbara Larson

**Lenny Meyer**  
Stephen & Tracy Brokaw

**Ann O'Malley**  
Rosemary Bialecke

**Anne Nolan**  
Jim Gibilterra

**Giovanna Palazzo**  
Josephine Byrne  
**John Polich**  
Charles & Beverly Pericich

**William G. Pitcher, Sr.  
William G. Pitcher, Jr.**  
Mary E. Pitcher

**Wayne Schilly**  
Jim Gibilterra  
**Barbara Schoen**  
Gail B. Rea  
Laura A. Joy  
Mrs. Loretta Ross  
Jacqueline Welkener  
**Carol Stumpf**  
Sandra Meyer

**Joann Terbrock**  
James Gibilterra & Jean

**Akmal Usmanov**  
Margaret Smith

**Pat Van Camp**  
Rosemary Bialecke

**Helen Walling**  
Mary E. Pitcher  
**Michael Wersching**  
Richard & Charlene Wersching



## **WANT TO BE A SECRET SANTA?**

Here's how you can. In December, we send out holiday packages to 125 cancer patients enrolled in one or more of our service programs. The bags include grocery gift cards; personal gifts; small gifts for children in the home and the beautiful items made by our volunteers.

If you would like to help us fill the Christmas packages before they are delivered in December, here is a list of items we could use.

- *Women's Pajamas - sizes medium & large*
- *Men's Pajamas - sizes medium & large*
- *Women's winter scarf & glove sets - one size fits all*
- *Body bath gel & lotions*
- *Men's winter scarves*
- *Men's gloves - size large*
- *Children's books - various age groups*
- *Small lego sets*
- *Books for tweens & teens (ages 11-15)*
- *Board games*
- *Children's gloves - one size fits all*
- *Bubble Bath for kids*
- *Schnuck's gift cards*
- *Visa or Mastercard gift cards*
- *Fast food gift cards*
- *Christmas candy - candy canes; chocolate Santas; or your holiday favorites*
- *Slipper socks - men's or women's*
- *Rolls of gift wrap & ribbon*

Throughout the fall, we will work on getting everything ready so wrapping and packing can be completed by mid-December when Missouri State Troopers - Troop C will make the deliveries to patients' homes.

Donated items need to be received by November 1st and donations of any quantity are appreciated. Whatever you choose to do, it will brighten the holidays for a cancer patient and his/her family.



# Deregrine Provides

St. Louis Peregrine Society, Inc.  
2343 Hampton Avenue  
St. Louis, MO 63139  
*75 Years of Providing for Cancer Patients*

NON PROFIT ORG.  
U.S. POSTAGE PAID  
ST. LOUIS, MO  
PERMIT NO. 3252

*Your gift helps us provide for a cancer patient in need.*

Send card to:

- \$50    *Your Name:* \_\_\_\_\_    *Name:* \_\_\_\_\_
- \$100    *Address:* \_\_\_\_\_    *Address:* \_\_\_\_\_
- \$150    *City/St/Zip:* \_\_\_\_\_    *City/St/Zip:* \_\_\_\_\_
- Other \$* \_\_\_\_\_    *In honor/memory of:* \_\_\_\_\_

If your gift is in honor or memory of a loved one, complete the portion above and a card will be sent in acknowledgement of your gift. Contributions can be made by mail - send to St. Louis Peregrine Society, Inc., 2343 Hampton Avenue, St. Louis, MO 63139 or online through PayPal by going to [www.peregrinesoc.org](http://www.peregrinesoc.org) and clicking on Donate.

*Gifts are tax-deductible as allowed by law.*