



eNewsletter of the Chiari & Syringomyelia Foundation

January/February 2010

3rd ANNUAL CSF CHARITY BALL HONORING DR. EDWARD C. BENZEL

Join us on Saturday, March 13, 2010 at the Hilton Garden Inn, Staten Island, NY for a fabulous evening of dinner, dancing and auction, as we honor **Dr. Edward C. Benzel**, Chairman, Department of Neurosurgery and Director, Center for Spine Health, at the Cleveland Clinic and member of the CSF Medical Research Board.

Visit our **website** for more information, if you are interested in being a sponsor **for** this event or advertising in the Charity Ball journal. We are also seeking silent auction items such as gift baskets, trips, gift certificates, jewelry, trips, and artwork. If you are able to secure any silent auction or raffle items, please **contact us**.

Help us make this the best Charity Ball yet!

UTICA CHAPTER VALENTINE'S DAY DINNER DANCE

Saturday, February 13, 2010 – 7:00pm-1:00am

Enjoy an evening to remember at the Valentine's Day Dinner Dance at the Radisson Hotel, 200 Genesee Street, Utica, New York.

CSF is pleased to announce the support of the New York State Correctional Officers & Police Benevolent Association, Inc. (NYSCOPBA) Mid State Sector as our major sponsor for The Utica Chapter Valentine's Gala. Thank you so much for your generous contribution in helping us find a cure for children and adults suffering from this devastating disease.

Featuring live music by Soul Injection

Cocktail Hour: 7:00pm to 8:00pm, Sit Down Dinner and Dancing: 8:00pm to 1:00am

Chance to win a Ladies Gold Heart Necklace

Advanced Reservations Only - Limited Seating. Reservations must be in by February 10, 2010. Accepting checks/money order/Visa/American Express/Discover/MasterCard \$130 per couple/\$65 per person. For more information or to make reservations, please contact James or Mary Ellen Feisthamel at 315-793-8823 or 315-794-0069.

Proceeds to benefit CSF.

GREATER METROPOLITAN WASHINGTON AREA SUPPORT GROUP MEETING

Join us on Wednesday, February 17 at 6:30pm. Meeting will be held at Doctors Community Hospital, 8116 Good Luck Rd, Professional Office Building, Lanham, Maryland. Ground floor conference room. Parking available in the garage. For more information, contact Administrative Co-Director, Anita Savage at (301) 654-9390.

CLEVELAND CHAPTER EDUCATION & AWARENESS PROGRAM

Wednesday, February 24, 2010 – 6:30-8:30pm

Cleveland Clinic Main Campus, Bunts Auditorium, (TT Building, located on E. 90th St. between Carnegie and Euclid), Cleveland, Ohio. Parking available in Lot #4.

Expert Speaker: Dr. Edward C. Benzel, Cleveland Clinic

Topic: "The Chiari Malformation: Who Really Needs Surgery?"

A panel of patients and professionals, moderated by Dr. Benzel, will address relevant issues regarding [the] Chiari Malformations and the clinical decision making process.

About Dr. Edward Benzel: Edward C. Benzel, MD, is Chairman of the Department of Neurosurgery at Cleveland Clinic. He also holds a faculty appointment, Professor of Surgery, at the Cleveland Clinic Lerner College of Medicine of Case Western Reserve University (CCLCM of CWRU).

Dr. Edward Benzel is an internationally recognized thought leader in spine surgery and biomechanics. He was appointed Chairman of the Department of Neurosurgery at the Cleveland Clinic in 2007. His clinical interests include cervical spondylosis, syringomyelia and Chiari malformation, complex spine instrumentation, and spine tumors. He has authored multiple textbooks in the field of spine care, as well as several co-authored and edited texts (19) and chapters (> 220). In addition, Dr. Benzel has published many (> 180) referred manuscripts. Besides publishing research, Dr. Benzel is frequently invited as a visiting professor, speaker, and instructor at hospitals, universities, and major national and international medical meetings.

While Dr. Benzel holds multiple patents and has participated in many medical advances, he is perhaps best known as an educator. He started and directed the Neurosurgery Residency Training Program and the Spine Fellowship Programs at the University of New Mexico, and has been instrumental in the development and success of these programs at the Cleveland Clinic. His innovations in Neurosurgery Resident Education have won accolades and numerous awards.

THE CSF ANNUAL FUND DRIVE IS COMING SOON

CSF thanks you for your continued support and we hope that you consider making a gift to the upcoming Annual Fund Drive. Check your mailboxes in February for our most critical fundraising effort of the year. Your gift can provide hope to those living with Chiari malformation and syringomyelia. There is so much to be done, and your gift will really make a difference.

Make your donation online at **www.CSFinfo.org** and let's all work together to find a cure!

RESEARCH ON CSF WEBSITE

Visit the **new Research section** of the CSF website. Here you will find information on new and exciting researchers, research projects and proposals.

CSF STARTING WESTERN PENNSYLVANIA CHAPTER

If you live in Western Pennsylvania and are interested in becoming involved with a CSF Chapter in that area, please send your name, phone number, and email address to info@CSFinfo.org and we will be in touch to discuss details.

CSF IS NOW LISTED ON THE NATIONAL INSTITUTE OF NEUROLOGICAL DISORDERS AND STROKE (NINDS)/NATIONAL INSTITUTES OF HEALTH (NIH) WEBSITE

Check out the **Chiari malformation** and **syringomyelia** information pages.