



ST. JOHN HEALTH FOUNDATION

Fall 2016

# McQuade Times

## Member Spotlight: Ahee family extends parents' legacy

For decades, Edmund T. Ahee Jewelers of Grosse Pointe Woods has brought joy to countless people with its stunning rings, necklaces, bracelets and other fine wares. Likewise, the Ahee family has brightened many lives over the years through generous philanthropic gifts.

The Ahees began their strong relationship with St. John Hospital & Medical Center (SJHMC) shortly after family

patriarch Edmund Ahee relocated his business to its present location in 1968.

“St. John is such a valuable resource for the community,” says John Ahee, company Vice President and youngest son of Edmund and Bettejean Ahee. “My wife Connie and I have great respect for so many St. John physicians and staff. In the Ahee family, 31 children, grandchildren and great-grandchildren were born at

St. John. And three more are on the way. Over the years, our family has received care from every sort of medical unit—including lifesaving care.”

Edmund and Bettejean’s deep admiration of SJHMC led to many fundraising efforts. Edmund was a lifetime member of THE GUILD of SJHMC until his passing in 1999. Bettejean, Ahee Jewelers CEO, is a lifetime Fontbonne Auxiliary member. She also chaired the Fontbonne’s annual fashion show in 1984, was honored for her commitment to the Fontbonne at the first “Girl’s Night Out” event in 2007, served on the Fontbonne board and was a member of the Cornerstone Society.

In addition to being a lifetime Guild member, John is a past board member of the Van Elslander Cancer Center (VECC) and The Holley Institute. He and Connie also co-chaired a Champions for Life event at Comerica Park in 2005 to support the Meade Pediatric Hematology/Oncology Center at the VECC.



Connie, John and Bettejean Ahee

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## McQuade Reception honors members, highlights new programs

You—our elite McQuade Society members, are the most loyal supporters of St. John Hospital & Medical Center (SJHMC). The annual McQuade Reception on Oct. 13 gave hospital leaders the chance to thank you in person for your investment and dedication. Guests mingled at the County Club of Detroit, enjoyed cocktails and hors d'oeuvres and were updated by Bob Hoban, SJHMC President, on accomplishments and initiatives taking place within the hospital and health system to better serve our community. Among these are:

- the Cracchiolo Family Birthing Center renovation and the Tersigni Family Lounge
- Select Specialty Hospital opening on campus and the renovation of several patient units including the Ralph C. Wilson Jr. Acute Care of the Elderly Unit
- the upcoming Ralph C. Wilson Jr. Senior Assessment for Independent Living Center in Grosse Pointe

- the new Electrophysiology Lab funded by Gretchen Valade
- Ascension health system updates including rebranding/unified names and greater integration

Kevin Grady, MD, Chief Medical Officer, SJHMC, talked about clinical updates, focusing on SJHMC's status as a regional and national leader. He mentioned:

- the hospital was among the first in the U.S. to implant a dissolvable heart stent
- the establishment of the Jerome F. Williams Gastric Cancer Program, under Dr. Richard Berri's leadership
- progress toward becoming a comprehensive stroke center and Level I Trauma Center

If you would like more information on the initiatives mentioned at the reception, please call the Foundation at 313-343-7480.



Richard and Joyce Thams



Joanne and Ed Deeb



Jan and Hugh Harness



Richard Fruehauf, Virginia and Robert Vallee



Beth Carter, Nancy Renick and Alexandra Mackey



Mike and Nancy Timmis with Sharon Burke



Phyllis and Greg DeMars, Bob Hoban and Anthony Kallabat



Stephanie Germack-Kerzic and Maureen McCabe



Dr. Kevin Grady



Drs. Richard Baumgarten and Cheryl Wesen



Margaret and Dan Grady with Camille DeMario (standing)

## New McQuade Society members

Please welcome the following new members to the McQuade Society. They joined our exclusive group of loyal benefactors between Oct. 1, 2016, and Oct. 20, 2016.

Mr. and Mrs. James A. Anderson  
Dr. and Mrs. H. Lee Bachelder  
Dr. and Mrs. Roberto M. Barretto  
Mr. and Mrs. Pete G. Beauregard  
John and Elizabeth Bruno  
Mr. and Mrs. Eugene L. Casazza  
Dr. and Mrs. Gerald Cohen  
Dr. and Mrs. William Cosgrove  
Bernadette Cracchiolo Lindquist and Eric Lindquist  
Grace Cracchiolo-Torre and Anthony Torre  
Mr. and Mrs. Gregory M. DeMars  
Dr. and Mrs. Lingareddy Devireddy  
Mrs. Carol A. Doran  
Mr. and Mrs. George L. Ellis  
Dr. and Mrs. Robert A. Fishman  
Dr. and Mrs. Bal K. Gupta

Dr. Leonard and Mrs. Melony Johnson  
Mr. and Mrs. Ryan Lewicki  
Lauren and Wesley Marchal  
Mr. and Mrs. David Quint  
Dr. and Mrs. Constantine S. Raptis  
Dr. Robert N. Riccardi  
Dr. and Mrs. Edward Schervish  
John and Shelly Schoenherr  
Mr. Brett Schuering  
Scott Smith and Kristin Welch  
Mr. and Mrs. Andrew Taravella  
Mr. and Mrs. John Tersigni  
Ms. MariaTeresa Tersigni-Tarrant and Mr. Christopher Tarrant  
R. Thomas and Maureen R. Vigliotti  
Mr. and Mrs. Joseph B. Wortman

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Ahee Jewelers also generously supports SJHMC. In 2005, to aid fundraising efforts for SJHMC's cardiovascular research and to create awareness of the hospital's comprehensive cardiovascular services, Ahee Jewelers donated 300 lovely sterling silver heart necklaces to the "One Heart Can Make All the Difference" campaign. The family also established the Edmund T. Ahee Endowment Fund for Cardiac Research.

"We support cardiac care because several people in the family have had heart issues," John says. "We're currently partnering with St. John on a similar fundraiser by donating and supplying heart bracelets to benefit the St. John Providence Cardiovascular Center of Excellence."

The church is a family cornerstone, and the Ahees shared a deep and long-lasting friendship with Sr. Verence McQuade.

"Sr. Verence was my idol," Bettejean says. "Her contributions to St. John Hospital were priceless. Her innovations still impact much of the success enjoyed by the hospital today. Those who had the

privilege of knowing her concur that she possessed saintly qualities. I was truly honored to call her my dear friend."

With a family as large as the Ahees, McQuade Society membership has been invaluable.

"The McQuade Society has been a godsend," Bettejean says. "We've had numerous occasions when medical intervention was immediately required. With one brief call to the irreplaceable, efficient, compassionate and much-loved Beth Carter, any request is promptly filled. It's an amazing organization we deeply appreciate."

"Beth Carter unselfishly takes care of so many McQuade Society member needs," John adds. "The service and care are flawless—over the top, really. I can't imagine it being any better."

In addition to SJHMC, the Ahees have long supported the Capuchin Soup Kitchen.

"Dad grew up during the Great Depression and stood in food lines as a youngster," John says. "He never



forgot that experience. That's why he began our family's association with Capuchin 35 years ago. We never dreamt the annual Capuchin fundraiser we sponsor would wind up raising millions of dollars to help feed the needy."

John says when his father passed away, the family made a conscious decision to extend his legacy of giving.

"Dad was a well-known philanthropist," John says. "During his wake, so many people told us about the things he did to help people, even as a young and struggling business owner. We decided to carry on our parents' legacy by continuing to give to organizations like Capuchin and St. John that mean so much to our community."

### Membership reminder

Membership in the McQuade Society is available to our benefactors and most loyal supporters to thank you for your generous, charitable commitment to St. John Hospital & Medical Center. Beth Carter is available to members 24 hours a day to help navigate your health services to ensure your complete satisfaction when using the hospital.

Please remember services are for members only. You may refer your friends to us for membership if they wish to enjoy member privileges.

Thanks to your assistance, membership in the McQuade Society has grown. When you refer your friends and family, it is the highest compliment to us. To make it easier to share information about how to qualify for McQuade membership, details are located at [www.stjohnprovidence.org/McQuadeSociety](http://www.stjohnprovidence.org/McQuadeSociety) and in brochures available from Beth (313-343-4602) or the St. John Health Foundation (313-343-7480).