

LPBC's 11th Annual Polar Plunge

Saturday, January 28th, 2012

Noon (arrive by 11:00am)

Oak Street Beach, Chicago

www.lakeviewpolarbearclub.com



Lakeview Polar Bear Club

Dear Friends,

The details are set for the **Lakeview Polar Bear Club's 11th Annual Polar Plunge on Saturday, January 28th, 2012**. While there are many fantastic charities that raise money for good causes, the LPBC stands apart by raising money for specific families. It's truly special to know exactly who your donations are helping. During these difficult times it is more important than ever that we help those who are less fortunate.

Bill, Allison, Bella & Liam Brya - Family #1

On Sept. 7th, 2008, Bella Brya, age 2, suffered an AVM rupture (Arteriovenous Malformation) deep in her brain that caused a severe hemorrhagic stroke. She was near death with a possibility of permanent brain damage. After emergency surgery she remained in a coma for 2 months. Following the coma, she went through brain surgery to remove the AVM in her cerebellum. On November 19th, 2008, Bella came home from the hospital to begin a slow recovery.

The next day, November 20th, the Brya family welcomed a new edition to their family: Liam. Unknown prior to birth, Liam was born with an under-developed ear and mandible. Knowing Bella's condition, the family asked the doctor's to do an MRI on Liam. The doctors found a tumor on Liam's brain stem and in December '10 Liam had brain surgery to remove the tumor. Unfortunately, the

tumor was too close to the brain stem to remove all of it.

Liam is currently in physical therapy, but there will be lasting effects from the brain surgery and most likely he will require future surgeries to remove segments of the tumor. Bella remains confined



Bill, Bella, Liam & Allison Brya

to a wheel chair unable to speak. Her condition continues to improve, such as communicating with her left hand, but she requires constant medical treatment and daily physical therapy.

Bill is a stay at home dad as Bella requires a full-time caregiver. Allison works part-time to provide insurance for the family. They are using all of their available resources to pay for everyday living expenses, physical therapy for both children, as well as the unexpected costs associated with weekly medical appointments. With your support we can ensure that Liam & Bella receive the best care possible. For more information on Liam and Bella please check out www.forbella.org.

How You Can Help

While we all feel the pinch of the current economic times, it is during these times that we need to go the extra mile to help those who are less fortunate. With your donations the Bryas will provide Liam and Bella with physical therapy to ensure that their recoveries reach their full potential and Katie will continue receiving treatments in her battle against neuroblastoma cancer. As a reminder, 100% of every donation will go directly to families in need.

Getting Involved

The LPBC is always looking for like-minded people & companies who want to make a difference. Therefore, if you are interested in becoming involved with the LPBC or simply would like to volunteer at the beach, please email us at:

lakeviewpolarbearclub@gmail.com.

After the Plunge

Immediately after the Plunge we will hold a fundraising party at Sedgwick's Bar & Grill. There will be a food & drink special as well as a raffle with prizes donated by great, local companies. More details will follow as we get closer to the Plunge. Even if you don't take the Plunge, please join us at the Sedgwick's for the after party.



Katie Kline - Family #2



Katie was diagnosed with neuroblastoma cancer in May of 2008, just shy of her 4th birthday. Doctors informed her mother, Terry Hall, that they would try to make Katie as comfortable as possible, but that she would probably only live for another 6-9 months. Terry decided that the prognosis was not acceptable and started researching childhood cancer programs. Sloan Kettering Hospital in NYC has one of the best childhood cancer programs in the country and Katie was accepted into a trial program. They have been traveling to NY for treatments for the past 3 YEARS; unfortunately, this program requires that Terry & Katie be in NY for roughly 1 week every 4-6 weeks. This journey has taken every resource that Terry has. In the meantime, Katie has had 2 relapses in the past 3 years, but as of August her scans were clear. She recently started 1st grade and is in the "high ability" class. Katie also has 2 brothers: Eli & Aidin, ages 15 & 11. Unfortunately the situation has put an enormous strain on their family and the 3 children spend too much time dealing with adult circumstances and not enough time just being kids. Despite everything she has been through, Katie continues to fight and put smiles on the faces of her family & friends. This is our opportunity to lend a hand and support Katie & her family during this extremely difficult situation.

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Donations

The Lakeview Polar Bear Club is a federally recognized non-profit organization. Therefore, please make checks payable to: Lakeview Polar Bear Club, NFP. Everyone who donates with a check or via the secure PayPal link on our website, www.lakeviewpolarbearclub.com, will receive a receipt to include with your tax returns. Any donation you can afford will mean the world to both families. All donations, responses or questions can be sent to :

Lakeview Polar Bear Club, NFP

P.O. Box 61 7694

Chicago, IL 60661

Email: lakeviewpolarbearclub@gmail.com

Tel: 312.307.9527

Matching Donations:

Many companies offer employee matching donation programs. Therefore, please check with your Human Resources department and verify whether your company participates. Last year an additional \$1,000 was raised from matching donations and we have a lot of room to increase this total. The LPBC is happy to fill out any necessary paperwork that is required for the matching donation.

Thank You

Thank you in advance for your kindness and generosity. We hope to see you in January!

Sincerely,

The **Lakeview Polar Bear Club**

LPBC Organizing Committee:

Brian Marchal—Stacy Monaghan

Shiv Agarwal—Matt Carty

Mike Monaghan—Rose Marchal

Cara Omiecinski

