



Balloon Angels

Lifting Children's Spirits

New Format!

Spring (yes, it's a little late)
2006

Quarterly Newsletter
For volunteers and contributors

Balloon Angels "Reach Out" Initiative

We sent everyone two copies of our Winter 2005 newsletter with the goal of reaching out to find new volunteers that are interested in helping us "Lift the Spirits" of a hospitalized child. How did you do? Did you share your extra newsletter with a friend, family member or neighbor? Did you share with them why you donate your time or financial support to our organization? If not, it's not too late. We'll be initiating an electronic version of our quarterly newsletter with this version of the newsletter. If you would like to receive the electronic version please send an email to Gary McQuillen at gary@balloonangels.org to get on the email list. Feel free to forward on our newsletter to anyone you think may be interested in either volunteering with us or making a donation. We are always looking for more volunteers and always can use the financial support. Don't feel limited to the local Louisville area as we are investigating expanding Balloon Angels to other cities and even other states. Always remember our mission:

Our mission is to provide free helium filled Mylar balloons to hospitalized children in our community. There is no charge to the patients, the parents or to the hospitals that receive the balloons. We pursue this mission through donations from individuals and corporations and the vast majority of donations received will go directly to purchasing, storing or delivering balloons. Our hope is that our gift of a balloon will help to lift the child's spirits, put a smile on their face and, if only for a little while, help make that stay in the hospital a little brighter place to be.

As we begin our 4th year of delivering balloons to hospitalized children, we would like to say thanks to our great team of volunteers and to all of you who make donations!



Focus on our Volunteers...

Lori Tanzer is this month's "Volunteer of the Month". Lori was born in Kansas

City, Kansas and went to college at Texas A&M. While in Chicago, she met her future husband Rob. They have two young ladies, Paige (9) and Amanda (11). Lori works for the Louisville chapter of the Leukemia and Lymphoma Society in downtown Louisville. Lori really enjoys working with the Leukemia and Lymphoma society because she knows that the organization is working for a great cause. In fact, that is how Lori describes herself, as one that really enjoys reaching out and helping others.



Lori enjoys spending time with her family. Some of her hobbies include putting puzzles together, reading books and playing board games with the girls. The Tanzers also enjoy hitting the Great Outdoors and going camping, the real way – with a tent, as often as possible. Lori has been attending Northeast Christian Church for about five years and it was through Northeast that Lori became involved with Balloon Angels.



Lori is one of the original Balloon Angel volunteers, starting with Balloon Angels back in 2003. She is also one of our volunteers that deliver balloons to Baptist Hospital East. This was the very first hospital that Balloon Angels started delivering balloons. Lori has also helped with many of our outreach initiatives to help orient new volunteers to Balloon Angels. When asked why she continues to volunteer, Lori says, "Simply to see the smile on the kid's faces – even the teenagers who think that they are too old for a balloon." She'll also tell you that, "Once you're a volunteer, you become a volunteer for life – it's just too hard to give up!" Thanks Lori for all that you do!

Spring is here! That means its yard sale time! We will participate in the Lake Forest Spring Yard Sale on Friday & Saturday, May 12th and 13th. We never thought that yard sales would top our list of fundraisers – but it has! In 2005, we raised about \$3,000 from our spring and fall yard sales. Think about it, we take your unwanted items, sell them,

Balloon Angels
Lifting Children's Spirits

Winter 2004 Quarterly Newsletter
For volunteers and contributors

Wow! So much has happened since our Fall Newsletter – Free balloons, more volunteers and opportunities for donations are topics of this quarter's newsletter – make sure to read all of the details. It's really an exciting time for our organization as we are truly on the verge of some rapid expansion!

Non-profit Status Update
As we reported in our last newsletter, we applied for non-profit status with the IRS. On September 21, 2004 it became official – we are now a fully qualified 501(c)(3) non-profit organization – hurry! Having this status has already resulted with some tremendous donations from other organizations (see the balloon stories below) and will bring even more new and exciting opportunities for Balloon Angels. We're currently working with 2 different organizations (Northeast Christian Church, Pizer Inc, and Kwana International) on different grants that could bring thousands of dollars to the company to dramatically impact our ability to purchase balloons and helium.

VOLUNTEER ALERT – Check with your employer to see if they offer any grants for supporting your volunteer service in the community or if they will match contributions that you make to non-profit organizations. This has the potential to greatly impact our fundraising abilities! STAY TUNED for further updates!

Inside this issue...	
1	Supporting Our Future
2	Volunteer Update
3	Ballon Angel Factory
4	Charitable Deduction
5	Be Grateful
6	Donor Update

FAST FACTS: A tank of helium costs us \$50.00 and fills about 250-300 balloons! That works out to be about 30¢ a balloon.

and then buy balloons for hospitalized kids – it's a wonderful gift, but **WE NEED YOUR STUFF!** ☺ Some have already donated items for the spring sale - but we need more! Call Gina at (502) 253-0855 and we will arrange a time to come to your house and pick up those items.



Balloon Angel Volunteer Receives Recognition

– Balloon Angel President and Founder, Gina McQuillen was nominated for a HER award and recognized by the Louisville magazine, Today's Woman, for her community involvement and work with Balloon Angels. This annual event recognizes and

celebrates the women in the Kentuckiana area who have made a difference, a positive impact on the lives of others that has benefited our community. This is an opportunity to honor women who quietly make all the difference but otherwise go unrecognized. Friends, coworkers, family members or acquaintances nominate these outstanding women in the community. Gina was nominated by two separate Balloon Angel volunteers for the category of "Community Angel" (a fitting name) which is defined as a woman who has provided help and assistance in our community, leaving her mark on those she



aided. Gina was recognized at the HER Awards Ceremony at the Kentucky Center for the Arts on February 28th. For more on the HER awards go to <http://www.iamtodayswoman.com/>

Congratulations Gina!

Thanks to those Pfizer employees

that made the decision to allocate part of their United Way contributions to Balloon Angels, Inc. Your contributions will add up to almost \$5,000 throughout the year for 2006! Pfizer employees – if you meant to, but forgot to designate Balloon

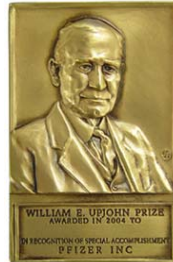


Angels as one of your charities and are interested in making a change to your United Way contribution, contact Gary McQuillen for an easy way to add Balloon Angels to your selected charities. If your employer has an annual United Way campaign you can allocate that contribution to various charities in your local area. Allocating a small percentage of your paycheck to Balloon

Angels, Inc. through the United Way is a very easy and convenient way to make a regular donation to Balloon Angels. And YES, your contributions to either the United Way or directly to Balloon Angels are tax deductible!

Balloon Angel Volunteer Receives Recognition

– Balloon Angel volunteer Gary McQuillen was recognized by his employer, Pfizer Pharmaceuticals, for his community involvement and work with Balloon Angels. Earlier this year, Gary was awarded the W.E. Upjohn award. This award is given to those employees that have a history of outstanding contributions and accomplishments – consistently embodying one or more of the core Pfizer values. One of Pfizer's



core values is Community with the goal of playing an active role in making every community in which it operates a better place to live and work. The award includes a cash payment, award letter and commemorative medallion. Gary has worked with Balloon Angels since the organization started and helps to run all aspects of the business side of Balloon Angels, Inc. Congratulations Gary!



Do you have a heart for kids?

If so, we would love to have you on our team! We can always use your help. We're looking to expand to additional hospitals in the Louisville area and even possibly to other metro areas such as Indianapolis, Cincinnati or Lexington. If you or someone you know has a heart for children and may be interested in helping us get started give us a call!

Comments – If you have an idea for our newsletter, contact Gary McQuillen at gary@balloonangels.org



PLEDGE CARD – I WANT TO HELP!

I would like to be part of Balloon Angels. I am interested in:

Volunteering – call us at (502) 253-0855 or email us at gary@balloonangels.org or send us your name and telephone number to the address below.

Contributing – We're able to buy balloons at greatly reduced prices. Our average balloon cost is about 50 cents. Please send your tax-deductible donation to the address below.

Helping start a local chapter of Balloon Angels – We're looking to expand Balloon Angels in other cities and we need your help. Call us at (502) 253-0855 or email us at gary@balloonangels.org or send us your name and telephone number to the address below.

Contact Information. Make your check payable to:
 Balloon Angels, Inc., c/o Gina McQuillen,
 910 Bridgecreek Rd., Louisville, KY 40245
 (502) 253-0855