



We are jumping for joy this spring! With the blossoms, lime-colored leaves and bright flowers comes fantastic growth and change at OMF.

From the annual American Association of Cancer Research conference to many Warrior events, we are sprouting new buds, growing new partnerships, and filling the OM community with hope.



Warrior Tim Scott and his son, Shilo

**Eye Patch Day**

Be sure to order your eye patches soon for **National Eye Patch Double-Days** (May 19-20th) and check out the upcoming events at the [end of the newsletter](#).

**2017 AACR-OMF Research Grant**

**Kammerman Family Supports \$50,000 Research Grant**

The awards banquet at the annual AACR meeting in Washington, DC was a night to celebrate! The Kammerman Family set out to raise money to support a research grant last November. Their fundraising efforts exceeded their goals, allowing OMF to fund two full research grants in collaboration with the AACR. The first grant, awarded last month, was to **Dr. Vivian Chua** of the **Sidney Kimmel Cancer Center, Thomas Jefferson University**.

To read more about the Kammerman's journey and fundraising efforts click [here](#).

Dr. Chua's research project will target new treatments for metastatic diagnosis. Her project has two aims. First, the research will investigate the BAP1 in the sensitivity of UM tumor cells to targeted therapies. Second, she will conduct an unbiased screen or search for drug compound(s) that specifically kill(s) tumor cells that lack BAP1. This will involve treating UM tumor cells with a large number of anti-cancer drugs and identifying drug(s) that would cause reduction in growth of UM cells that do not have BAP1.

Results from these studies are expected to lead to the discovery of novel treatment strategies for UM with mutations in BAP1.

The only way to "See A Cure" is through research and we applaud both the Kammerman's dedication to supporting it and Dr. Chua's efforts in moving the ball forward for the OM community.

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**Quick Links**

- [OMF Website](#)
- [OMF Facebook Page](#)
- [Friends & Family FB Group](#)
- [OMF YouTube Channel](#)

**UPCOMING EVENTS**



**Core72 Fundraiser**  
**May 11, 10AM-8PM**  
**Washington, DC**



**EANA Conference**  
**October 2017**  
**Palo Alto, CA**

**BY THE NUMBERS**

**14** years since founding  
**#1** on Google for OM



Left to Right: Holly Abbe (OMF Director), Nancy Davidson MD (AACR President), Dr. Vivian Chua (grant recipient), Maura Kammerman, and David Kammerman

3,487 Facebook 'likes'  
2,406 Forum members  
7,588 Twitter followers  
114k annual web visitors  
\$50k given as TAG/PAP Awards  
\$200k given for Research Grants



SEE A CURE 

## National Eye Patch Days

What's better than one Eye Patch Day? Two days to wear an eye patch! May 19th and 20th are **National Eye Patch Days!** Help us spread awareness by wearing an eye patch to work, to school, to the PTA meeting, to lunch with friends, to Saturday's sporting events, or to the gym. Hand out eye patches to friends and family and invite them to join you in this effort. Or host an eye patch party! Then, post pictures to social media.

Send an eye patch request to [holly@ocularmelanoma.org](mailto:holly@ocularmelanoma.org) by May 12th to receive eye patches.

Check out our National Eye Patch video from last year's amazing efforts:

View our videos on 



## Warrior Fundraising Spotlight

### Tim Scott Raises \$10,000 for OM Research

Tim was diagnosed with OM in 2012 during a routine eye exam. For the past five years, Tim has helped raise money for OM patient support and research.

Tim's most recent fundraising effort was running the Mount Diablo 50K in northern California where he raised over **\$10,000**.



Early on in his diagnosis, Tim decided to focus his energy on helping bring awareness to this rare disease. He has combined his love of outdoors and extreme sports with fundraising efforts. Find out more about [Tim's journey](#) on our Warrior Spotlight page.

### 3rd Annual Lisa Spiers 5K

It was another beautiful spring Warrior event! Members of the Kilmarnock, VA community gathered to participate in the third annual Lisa Spiers 5K.

The Kilmarnock Baptist Church hosted the event. A local radio station provided upbeat music while volunteers cheered and handed out water. In its third year, the Lisa Spiers 5k has raised over **\$15,000** for OMF.



## 200 Miles of Awareness

For the second year in a row, OMF put together a relay team to participate in the 200 mile Colonial Relay. Team members ran from Charlottesville to Williamsburg April 28-29.



The team spread awareness by wearing "See A Cure" t-shirts, decorating the team vans with the OM message, and handing out "See A Cure" magnets. However, the best awareness efforts occurred when we answered the common question, "What is OM?"

The sobering part of the race was realizing that every mile we ran represented 10 individuals who will be diagnosed each year with ocular melanoma. The optimistic part of the race was watching the teamwork and knowing that the same sense of "community" and "team" is what helps our OM community find hope.



## Upcoming Events

### Shopping for a Cause

Who loves to shop? Combine your love of shopping with fighting cancer. For the second year in a row, Joanne Barlia is teaming with [Core 72](#) (a boutique for athletic apparel) to raise money for OMF.

Join us on May 11th from 10-8pm at Core72 Cathedral Commons, 3316 Wisconsin Ave, NW, Washington DC. 15% of all sales will go toward OM patient support and research.



### Interested in Putting On A Warrior Event?

The [Warrior Fundraising Program](#) is OMF's platform to empower members of the OM community to contribute their own time, talent and treasure. We work with YOU to put on an event or do something amazing - whether it's hosting a BBQ at your home, running a 10k or hosting an awareness event at your child's school. We can supply you with helpful instructions and best practices, plenty of giveaways (brochures, SEE A CURE sunglasses, t-shirts, etc.), and even additional volunteers and funds to make

it a success! We can also work alongside you to ensure your event raises awareness of OM and funds for OMF research initiatives.

To learn more or to get your event planning started today, drop Holly, OMF's Warrior Program Director, a note at [holly@ocularmelanoma.org](mailto:holly@ocularmelanoma.org). Or click on the link below to fill out our online Warrior Worksheet and start the creative process.

**Warrior Worksheet**

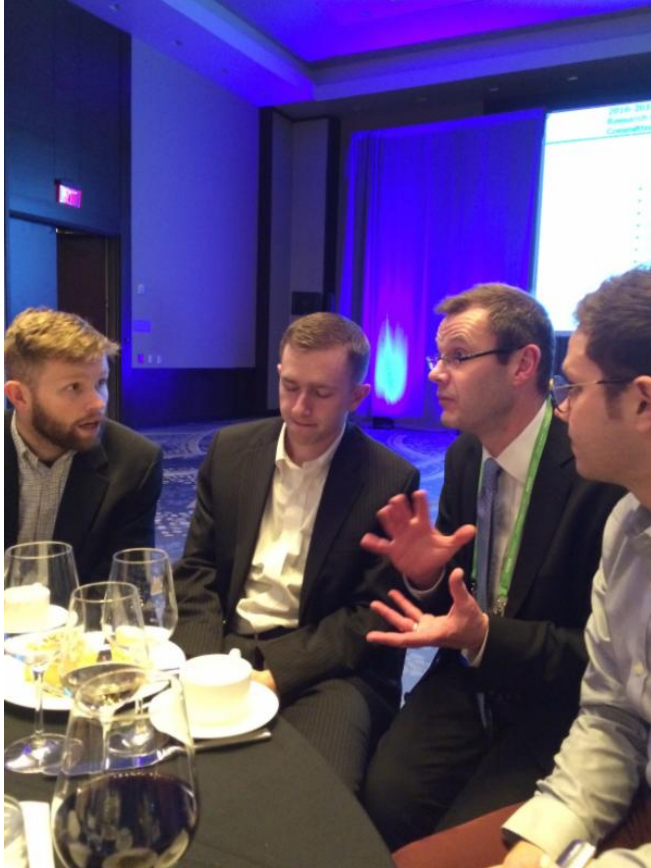
### More Spring 2017 Pictures



Getting ready for the Colonial 200 Relay



Dr. Bill Harbour and his research team at the AACR Conference



**Andrew Aplin, PhD of Jefferson University explains Dr. Chua's research project to Kammerman family**



**Lisa Spiers 5K Finish Line**