



HEART TO HEART



The mission of the Steven M. Gootter Foundation is to save lives by defeating sudden cardiac death through increased awareness, education and scientific research.

The Steven M. Gootter Foundation works to increase awareness of sudden cardiac death among those who may be at risk, fosters education among the public and health care professionals, and funds scientific research into the causes of and treatments for sudden cardiac death.

2008 GOOTTER GRAND SLAM RAISES \$360,000 FOR HEART RESEARCH



2008 Honoree Bazy Tankersley receives the Philanthropic Award

More than 400 people attended the Gootter Grand Slam gala dinner on March 28, 2008 at Skyline Country Club. Highlights of the third annual event included the presentation of the 2008 Philanthropic Award to Bazy Tankersley and a research update from Gordon Ewy, M.D., director of the University of Arizona's Sarver Heart Center.

Foundation President Bobby Present was overwhelmed with the community's response to the event. "The outpouring of support every year has exceeded even our most ambitious expectations. It is truly a testament to Steve Gootter, whose spirit of generosity and joy touched all of our lives," he said.

The evening's entertainment included live music, a culinary tour of the world's greatest tennis events, remarks from last year's Philanthropic Award winner, Robert Sarver, and a touching video tribute from NBC Sports' anchor Dan Hicks. This year's Tennis Tournament welcomed former top 10 players Mats Wilander and Aaron Krickstein.



Foundation President Bobby Present, right, presents a check to Dr. Gordon Ewy, Director of the Sarver Heart Center



Mike Stoops and Mats Wilander

SAVE THE DATE!

THE FOURTH ANNUAL
GOOTTER GRAND SLAM
STEVEN M. GOOTTER FOUNDATION

MARCH 28, 2009
SKYLINE COUNTRY CLUB

STEVEN M. GOOTTER
FOUNDATION
BOARD OF DIRECTORSBobby Present
*President*Andrew Messing
*Vice President*Rob Aronoff
*Treasurer*Steve Weintraub
*Secretary*Joyce N. Barkley
Gordon Ewy, M.D.
Debra Gootter
Joe Gootter
Paulette Gootter
Shari Gootter
Claudine Messing
Tom Pothoff
Steve Rosenberg
Leigh Ann Waterfall
Arianne Weiner, Ph.D.GOOTTER GRAND
SLAM COMMITTEERob Aronoff
Joyce N. Barkley
Marguerite V. Brown
Michelle Brown
Bill Burk
Gary Cohen
Susan Dellheim
Bill DiVito
Chuck Dunn
Molly Eglin
Mark Fina
Patty Gadarian
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Shelia Hips
Lyssa Holmes
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Judi Kessler
Bob Kivel
Clint McClall
Andrew Messing
Claudine Messing
Jeff Miller
Jessica Monash
Tom Pothoff
Bobby Present
Steve Rosenberg
Abbie Stone
Amy Stuchen
MaryPat Ware
Leigh Ann Waterfall
Arianne Weiner, Ph.D.
Steve Weintraub

ADVISORY COUNCIL

Barry Baker
Jack Copeland, M.D.
Dan Hicks
Fletcher McCusker
Jim Moore
Robert Sarver
Vince Sorrell, M.D.PHILANTHROPIC
AWARD RECIPIENTS
Robert and Penny Sarver
Bazy TankersleyUNIVERSITY OF ARIZONA'S ALUMNUS
MAGAZINE FEATURES GOOTTER FOUNDATIONU of A Grad's
Life Cut Short

by John Brown

Steven M. Gootter '85 could have been on the cover of Men's Health magazine. A state tennis champion in high school, the 42-year-old father led the quintessential healthy lifestyle. He didn't smoke, exercised regularly, and had no history of heart problems.

So there was no way of knowing when he left his house for a morning run on February 10, 2005, it would be the last time his wife, Debbie, their two children, and the rest of his family and friends would see him. Sudden cardiac death claimed his life.

Gootter was a successful businessman and entrepreneur. Friends describe him as a people-magnet, blessed with the gift of making everyone he met feel special.

"He had many best friends, and I say that very genuinely. You always felt good in his presence," says his sister, Claudine Messing. "That is the tragedy of his death — to lose someone who was so alive and had such passion for life, to have died so young."

Gootter's untimely death left family and friends with relatively few answers. Being paralyzed by grief was not an option.

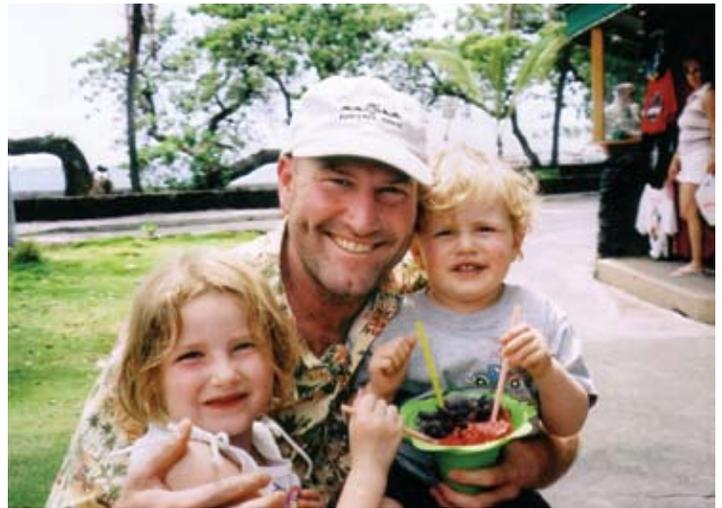
"We all got motivated to make something positive out of our tragic experience," she says.

His parents, Joe and Paulette Gootter, along with other friends and family members, mobilized to establish the Steven M. Gootter Foundation in 2005 to support scientific research in sudden cardiac death and education and awareness of the condition.

The foundation funds promising research at the UA Sarver Heart Center, and has raised nearly \$800,000 of its \$2-million endowment goal for the Steven M. Gootter Chair for the Prevention and Treatment of Sudden Cardiac Death.

"He inspired us all to create something special that could promote greater awareness and research, and someday, hopefully, spare other families such tragedies," says brother-in-law Andrew Messing, vice president of the foundation's board of directors.

For three years, the Gootter Foundation's signature event has been the Gootter Grand



Slam Tennis Tournament and Gala Dinner in Tucson.

In March 2008, UA football coach Mike Stoops and other celebrities joined former tennis pros Mats Wilander and Aaron Krickstein in hosting the 90-player tournament at Randolph Tennis Center.

The family event features health and wellness centers, massages, and a jumping castle. In just three years, it has become the largest event of its kind in Tucson, raising nearly \$800,000.

"The event's success is a testament to the type of person Steve was. He was an extraordinary guy who touched so many lives — nearly 1,600 people attended his memorial services," says Andrew Messing.

The foundation that ensures Steve's spirit lives on is entirely run by volunteer staff, mainly friends and family members.

"It's been a lot of work and a lot of fun ... we've been successful beyond our dreams," says Bobby Present, a former tennis buddy who has served as the foundation's president since its inception.

The foundation's primary focus is its \$2-million endowment campaign to support the Gootter Endowed Chair. The chair will enable the UA to recruit a faculty member with the scientific and clinical expertise to work toward finding new and improved ways of preventing sudden cardiac death.

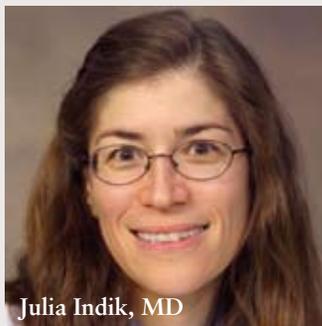
"An endowed chair has the single most direct impact in academics, which is very important to us," Claudine Messing says.

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SUDDEN CARDIAC DEATH RESEARCH UPDATE



Vincent L. Sorrell, MD



Julia Indik, MD

Vincent L. Sorrell, M.D. is a Sarver Heart Center member, Professor of Clinical Medicine and Radiology at the College of Medicine the Allan C. Hudson and Helen Lovaas Endowed Chair of Cardiovascular Imaging.

Sarver Heart Center Grant for the Steven M. Gootter Investigator Award for the Prevention of Sudden Cardiac Death

Principle Investigator:

Vincent L. Sorrell, MD

Sub-investigators:

Shu-Fen Wung, PhD, RN; F. Brian Boudi, MD

Consultants:

Julia Indik, MD, Peter Ott, MD.

Project: Predictability of sudden cardiac death by cardiac magnetic resonance imaging (MRI); initiation of a prospective registry of patients receiving implantable cardiac defibrillators.

Hypothesis: A comprehensive series of clinical and research CMR (Cardiac Magnetic Resonance) imaging sequences can be used to accurately stratify patients into those with a high likelihood of subsequent malignant arrhythmias. It is presumed that ICD patients with appropriate device firing will have a unique, reproducible pattern (or patterns) on their CMR examination. It is anticipated that a large territory (>10% myocardium) of an intermediate degree of fibrosis (25-50% transmural) will be a consistent and reproducible CMR finding in patients with proven malignant arrhythmias.

Goals: 1. *Create a registry of CMR results* in patients suspected by conventional clinical criteria to be at a high risk for SCD (scheduled for ICD implantation);
2. *Identify characteristic CMR features* that are seen in patients with appropriate ICD firing on follow-up and absent in patients without ICD firing;
3. *Compare the CMR results and patient outcomes with a series of genetic markers*.
4. Use these observational findings to *develop a prospective, randomized clinical trial* of ICD implantation.

Conclusion: It is planned that this study will support the design of a multi-center, prospective, randomized clinical trial that would select patients for ICD implantation based upon the results of the CMR findings versus traditional clinical criteria. **These investigators believe it is premature to conclude that the occurrence of sudden arrhythmic death is a completely random phenomenon that cannot be predicted.**

THE STEVEN M. GOOTTER INVESTIGATOR AWARDS

The Steven M. Gootter Investigator Awards at the University of Arizona Sarver Heart Center are designed to foster greater understanding of the causes and prevention of sudden cardiac death. In addition to the award described above, the following are awards that have been funded by the Steven M. Gootter Foundation:



Anke Zieseniss, Ph.D., right, and Carol Gregorio, Ph.D., who leads the Molecular Cardiovascular Research Program.

RECIPIENT: Richard D. Lane, M.D., Ph.D., Professor of psychiatry, psychology and neuroscience at the University of Arizona.

PROJECT: Neurophysiologic trigger of heart rhythm disturbance in the context of emotional stress and coronary artery disease.

RECIPIENT: Anke Zieseniss, Ph.D., Research Associate in the laboratory of Carol Gregorio, Ph.D., who leads the Molecular Cardiovascular Research Program.

PROJECT: Role of the protein actin in heart failure. Actin is the major component of muscles - including the heart muscle. Changes in actin caused by genetic mutations play a role in sudden cardiac death. Dr. Zieseniss recently presented her findings in Sweden and received a grant from the American Heart Association to advance her important work.

HEART TO HEART

WORKING TO CONQUER SUDDEN CARDIAC DEATH

IN THIS ISSUE:

- 2008 Gootter Grand Slam Raises \$360,000
- U of A Magazine Features Gootter Foundation
- Research Update
- Message from the President



Robert Sarver and
Wilbur the Wildcat
lead the live auction

MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT MESSAGE FROM JOE & PAULETTE GOOTTER

Dear Friends,

We are pleased to present the first edition of our newsletter, *Heart to Heart*. We look forward to bringing you updates on the important work of the Foundation.

The Board of Directors and the Advisory Council of the Steven M. Gootter Foundation thank you for your outstanding support which allows us to fund research in our quest to defeat sudden cardiac death.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Bobby Present".

Bobby Present
President
Steven M. Gootter Foundation

Dear Friends,

When someone dies, one tries to define what was special about them. Steve was generous, honest, funny. He loved his family and friends, and cherished his children, the joy of his life. Steve could have lived by the quote: "Enjoy life, it's ungrateful not to."

We are most grateful to our dedicated Board and Volunteers' commitment and dedication, and to our generous donors whose support makes timely research possible into this "sudden" devastating disease.

With our deepest appreciation,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Joe & Paulette".



L-R: Mats Wilander,
Mike Stoops, Tom Pothoff,
Aaron Krickstein,
Angie Firestone.



L-R: Fran Katz, Jeff and Amy Stuchen,
Leigh Ann Waterfall