



September 2022

September is Ovarian Cancer Awareness month, and as we observe this month, we will never forget those we have lost. We honor our health care experts who work tirelessly to save lives. And we offer strength to women and families facing ovarian cancer today and in the future.

Another way to honor our community is to attend the [O-Vary Funny Dinner and Silent Auction Fundraiser](#) which benefits ovarian cancer survivors on October 1.

We look forward to honoring and celebrating you at our biggest FUNdraiser event after a two-year in-person Covid hiatus!

A few important notes:

- **Purchase your event tickets [here](#).**
- **Purchase your *Italian Villa for 10 people* raffle tickets [here](#). (You don't have to be present to win!)**
- **If you're unable to attend this year's event, you can donate [here](#).**

Quick Links

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Thank you for supporting our mission.

Warmest regards,

[Zoya Kumar](#)

Executive Director

In Her Own Words: Zita Wenzel

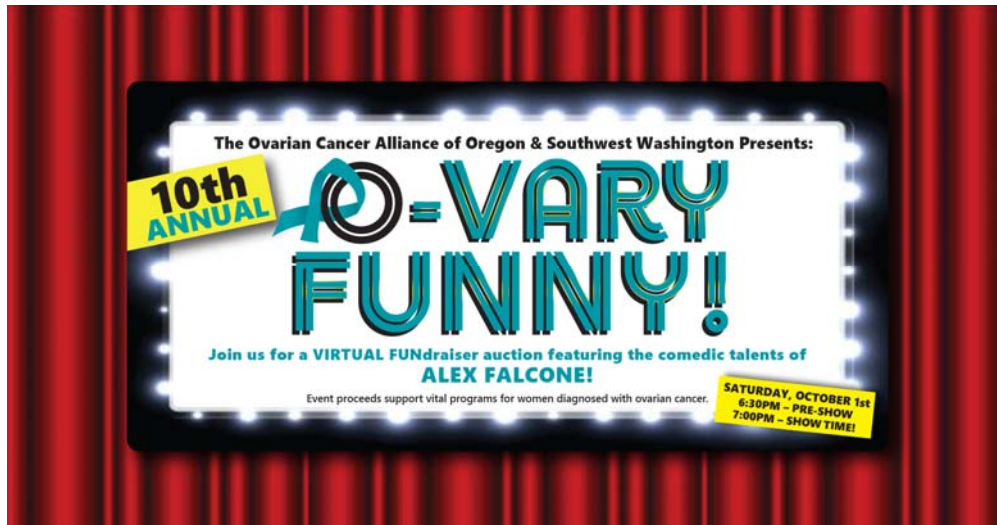
We'll jump right in — I found my cancer ...[here](#).



OCAOSW Upcoming Events

Join us for the upcoming virtual events:

- September 14, [OCAOSW Support Group moderated by Susan Hedlund](#)
 - September 21, [OCRA Virtual Ovarian Cancer National Conference](#)
 - October 1, [OCAOSW O-Vary Funny Dinner and Silent Auction FUNdraiser](#)
 - October 14, [OCAOSW Support Group moderated by Susan Hedlund](#)
 - November 16, [OCAOSW Support Group moderated by Susan Hedlund](#)
 - December 15, [OCAOSW Support Group moderated by Susan Hedlund](#)
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2022 O-Vary Funny - Celebrating a Decade!

Save the date: October 1, 2022, for our 10th Annual O-Vary Funny FUNdraiser! Our featured comedian is Alex Falcone. You can expect great [silent auction items](#) and special surprises as we honor survivors and raise funds for our mission.

To purchase event tickets, click [here](#). If you are unable to attend, but would like to donate, click [here](#).

To purchase raffle tickets for an Italian villa getaway for 10 people, click [here](#).

To sponsor this event to advance our mission, please contact [Zoya Kumar](#).

Stay tuned for exciting event information as we prepare to celebrate a decade!!!

A huge thanks to our sponsors !!!

Presenting: [Compass Oncology](#)

Gold: [Grail](#), [GSK](#), [Merck](#), [Providence Cancer Institute of Oregon](#), [Zidell Family Foundation](#)

Silver: [OHSU Knight Cancer Institute](#), [Standard TV & Appliance](#), [Legacy Cancer Institute](#)

OCAOSW Board Member Mark Shafer's Teal on 2 Wheels Wrap Up

I am writing to summarize my trip (by no means all the stories) for all who followed and have been so supportive of my ride on the Oregon Timber Trail (OTT). My goal was to raise awareness about ovarian cancer and help support financially the Ovarian Cancer Alliance of Oregon & SW Washington. Those of you who followed and shared my Facebook posts at Teal on 2 Wheels, @teal_on_2wheels, stories and reels have helped spread the word about ovarian cancer. Thank You!

One definition of “adventure” is that the outcome is uncertain. I knew that my decision to ride the OTT of over 600 miles from California to Washington across

Oregon's mountains was going to be an adventure! However, last year as I started to plan the trip I decided that I also wanted to add more meaning to the ride than just a challenge. Back in 2016 when my wife Kelly was diagnosed with ovarian cancer just after I retired from Merrill Lynch I became her full-time caregiver. As she and I talked about how much time and effort this ride would take she was 100% behind being my support person and was thankful for all the time I had been her caregiver in 2016 during her cancer journey. That is when I decided to make my ride an awareness campaign and fundraiser for ovarian cancer survivors. Read more [here](#) and see pictures [here](#).

Day 11 of Mark's ride: Lava Lake at 5:30am. Left to right: South Sister, Broken Top in the middle, and Mt. Bachelor on the right.



OCRA's Virtual Ovarian Cancer National Conference

September 21-23, 2022

The Uniting for Hope Ovarian Cancer National Conference, presented by Ovarian Cancer Research Alliance, is the largest and longest-running ovarian cancer conference. It brings together patients, caregivers, survivors, advocates and friends to learn about the latest developments in diagnosis, treatment and quality of life for women with ovarian cancer. The conference offers opportunities to learn, connect and support, all from the comfort of your own home.

Register [here](#)!

Legacy Cancer Institute

September Free Webinar Series - Cancers that Affect Women

Join via Zoom for a free webinar series on women's cancer hosted by Legacy Cancer Institute. Learn from health care experts about breast and gynecologic cancers, current screening guidelines, the role of genetics, environmental factors, and ways to reduce cancer risk. Registration required. Sign up for one or more virtual events.

Register [here](#)!



Facebook Fundraisers

Easy Way to Raise Awareness, Funds, and Make a Big Difference

Now more than ever, it's easy to raise funds and raise mission awareness for OCAOSW. Inspire your friends and family with your passion for our mission by sharing your special day with us.

A Facebook fundraiser posted to your timeline tells your friends and family what matters to you on your special day. It doesn't have to be instead of cake and cards – you can have those things too!

Learn how to create a Facebook fundraiser [here](#).

The PATHFINDER 2 Study Open for Enrollment

Too often, cancer goes undetected until it is at an advanced stage. Thinking about the possibility of having cancer can feel overwhelming, but taking steps to find cancer early can help you feel more in control of your health. The earlier that cancer is found, the higher the chance of survival.

The PATHFINDER 2 Study will evaluate the performance of a multi-cancer early detection test, called Galleri, that can detect many types of cancer through a simple blood draw. This test is being studied and is not approved or cleared by the Food and Drug Administration (FDA). It is not meant to replace the cancer screening tests your healthcare provider may recommend, such as colonoscopy or mammography.

The PATHFINDER 2 Study is currently open to men and women aged 50 years or older who meet eligibility criteria and receive care at participating health systems. Participants in previous or ongoing GRAIL sponsored studies are not eligible to participate in the PATHFINDER 2 Study.

To see if you are eligible to enroll, please contact the PATHFINDER 2 Study Team [here](#).

No Out of Pocket Genetic Re-Testing

Have you previously tested for BRCA1/BRCA2 full testing or for Lynch Syndrome prior to 2013? If so, you may qualify for update testing at no out of pocket expense. Check with your geneticist or provider for more information.

Story Time: Seeking IHOW Authors

In Her Own Words is one of the most read and appreciated articles in our newsletter and on our website. If you're interested in sharing your journey with our community, please contact [Diane O'Connor](#).

Camp Mak-a-Dream in Gold Creek, MT Retreats

Please visit this [page](#) for details on event and programming changes based on current recommendations and restrictions surrounding the COVID-19 (Novel Coronavirus) situation.



For more camp information, click [here](#).

Easy Ways to Make a Significant Difference



Set up a Facebook Fundraiser to benefit the Ovarian Cancer Alliance of Oregon and Southwest Washington.

Follow these [easy instructions](#).

You'll make a big difference in the lives of survivors by helping fund our emotional and financial support programs.



Make a difference when you shop! Please consider linking your online Amazon shopping account to the Ovarian Cancer Alliance of Oregon and SW Washington. For every dollar spent, **OCAOSW** receives a [donation from AmazonSmile](#) and that is surely something to smile about!



You can help the Ovarian Cancer Alliance of Oregon and SW Washington earn donations just by shopping with your Fred Meyer rewards card! To learn more, login to your [Fred Meyer account](#).

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