

Bladder
Cancer
Advocacy
Network



BCAN[®]

Leading the way to awareness and a cure

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Bladder Cancer Survivors are traveling to North Carolina to Meet Face-to-Face with Other Survivors Who Helped Support Them Online through Treatment, Survivorship

Maggie Valley, NC – Forty bladder cancer survivors and their loved ones are traveling to North Carolina's Smoky Mountains on July 18th to meet face-to-face with other bladder cancer survivors and their loved ones who have helped provide vital support during their treatment and survivorship of the disease.

Almost two dozen of the more than 500 bladder cancer survivors and caregivers who participate in the Bladder Cancer Advocacy Network's online support group (www.bcan.org, then click on the orange button to register) are converging in North Carolina to meet face-to-face for the first time. They and their family members will meet for a picnic on the ridge of the Smoky Mountains with people who feel like family, even though they have never met face-to-face. Their common bond is the support and information they shared together about their bladder cancer journey from treatment to long-term survivorship.

In conjunction with this event, these survivors are contacting their local media to raise awareness of the symptoms and signs of bladder cancer. Everyone needs to know that blood in your urine is not normal and should be checked by a doctor. Because smokers and men over 50 are most at risk for bladder cancer, if they develop symptoms such as urinary frequency or blood in their urine, they should ask their doctor to be screened for bladder cancer.

Bladder cancer is the fifth most commonly diagnosed cancer in our country, yet most people know nothing about it until they or a loved one is diagnosed with the disease. One of the most comprehensive sources of bladder cancer information and support on the Internet is the Bladder Cancer Advocacy Network (BCAN) and its online support community.

BCAN is the first national advocacy organization dedicated to improving public awareness of bladder cancer, encouraging bladder cancer research, increasing bladder cancer research funding, and providing information and support to people affected by bladder cancer. Founded in May 2005, BCAN is a cooperative effort among bladder cancer survivors, their families and caregivers, and the medical community. For more information or to join our bladder cancer online support community, visit our website at www.bcan.org or call us at 888-901-BCAN.