



LEE KENNEDY COMPANY SPONSORS 2008 PATIENT SEMINAR



Shown presenting P.E.S. sponsorship check to Marie Coyle are (l-r) Gene Kennedy, Shailla Kennedy Garland, and Lee Michael Kennedy, President/CEO.

As it has in past years, Lee Kennedy Company, Dorchester, MA has once again provided sponsorship of the 2008 Patient Education Program which is currently in the planning stage. Full details will be announced in the next issue of The Beacon. The Kennedy Company has underwritten the Patient Seminar for several years in memory of Don Ventula, a former employee, who lost his life in a tragic automobile accident in 1992. Don was Marie Coyle's younger brother and a dedicated member of SFNE.

SCLERODERMA POSTAGE STAMP A POSSIBILITY

What started out with a letter from SFNE member Susanne Lovell last April to U.S. Representative Steven Lynch (D-MA), has resulted in the Congressman introducing legislation for a US Post Office commemorative stamp for scleroderma in December.

The resolution expresses the sense of

Congress that a stamp should be issued to "promote public awareness of, and additional research relating to, scleroderma." This legislation is an excellent opportunity to raise awareness of scleroderma among members of Congress and other policymakers in Washington.

Everyone can help to get this resolution passed. Contact your Representative and ask them to co-sponsor H. Con. Res. 268.

To find your Representative, simply visit www.congress.org and enter your zip code.

When you contact your Representative's Office:

- Ask to speak with the staff member who handles health issues.
- Explain what scleroderma is and the effect it has on individuals and families.
- Explain that Congressman Stephen Lynch from Massachusetts has introduced a resolution in the House (H. Con. Res. 268), that calls for a scleroderma postage stamp.

THANK YOU TO GE EMPLOYEES' GOOD NEIGHBOR FUND

The General Electric Employees' Good Neighbor Fund presented SFNE with a **\$5,000** check at its Agency Fair, held at the GE facility in Lynn, MA, on November 30.

The check was the second part of a **\$10,000** grant over two years provided by the GE Employees to fund SFNE's newsletter, *The New England BEACON*. The grant is being used to cover the cost of producing and mailing the newsletter, resulting in SFNE being able to redirect money it would have spent for these purposes to other chapter services and research.

As a token of the Chapter's appreciation, there is an acknowledgement to the GE Employees for their generosity at the bottom of each *BEACON* page.

USING GOODSEARCH HELPS SFNE



GoodSearch is a search engine just like Google, Ask.com and Jeeves.com. It is just one more way to find things you are looking for on the Internet. The best thing about GoodSearch is that it will make a donation to SFNE every time you use them to do a search or purchase an item on-line at one of their partner companies, such as Best Buy, Kohl's and Sears.

SFNE is a registered charity on www.GoodSearch.com. People can take advantage of this by entering "Scleroderma Foundation New England" in the box under "Who do you GoodSearch for?" and then clicking the "Verify" button. Some people and organizations - like the SFNE Office - have made GoodSearch their homepage. Others put it in their "Favorites" or bookmark the page so that when they need to search or buy an item on-line, it is ready. If you are happy with another search engine you now use, you can use GoodSearch first to get to your preferred site.

To shop from the GoodSearch homepage, just click on the "shop" button, and you will be taken to the list of links to their partner stores.

Every time someone searches on GoodSearch, SFNE will get a penny. For on-line purchases through GoodSearch, the average percentage of the sale donated through the partner to SFNE is about three-percent.

You can also spread the word about GoodSearch and how it helps SFNE by having a standard statement at the bottom of your e-mails that states, "I GoodSearch for Scleroderma. Help us raise money to find the cure for scleroderma just by searching the internet with GoodSearch - www.goodsearch.com"

If you have any questions about using GoodSearch, please feel free to call Chapter Coordinator Cheryl Kelly toll free at **1-888-525-0658**.