



# 2009 – *Where it all began...*

Just last Christmas, friends of Darby Steadman threw a holiday house tour and luncheon celebration to raise money in support of the work of Leisha Emens, M.D. and the trial in which Darby participated as a study patient throughout 2008.

From that event, a new charity was born – **The Driving Miss Darby Foundation, Inc.**

**Driving Miss Darby's** mission is to support the needs of patients with cancer as they participate in clinical trial research. This support falls into three broad categories:

**Assistance:** *Providing financial support and outreach to patients participating in clinical trials.*

**Accrual:** *Supporting recruitment and retention of patients in clinical trial research.*

**Awareness:** *Educating the public on clinical trials and their contribution to medical treatment.*

Specifically, the **Driving Miss Darby Foundation** wants to reimburse patients for the costs they assume in agreeing to participate in a trial. There is no incentive for patients who volunteer for this mission and they assume the financial burdens of travelling to – and staying at – Johns Hopkins throughout their trial commitment. In the case of Dr. Emens's trial, these patients travel to Baltimore from all over the country **at least 24 times** over the course of 6 - 8 months. Additionally, the **Driving Miss Darby Foundation** wants to continue to provide outreach and other tangible support during the trial patients' stay at Hopkins, including meals and other comforts of home. With your help, **Driving Miss Darby Foundation** can expand on these pilot programs and continue to meet the needs of these trial patients.

In 2009, the **Driving Miss Darby Foundation:**

- Became a 501(c) (3) public charity, ensuring donations to the foundation are eligible for tax deduction.
- Developed a logo and created a website: [www.drivingmissdarby.org](http://www.drivingmissdarby.org).
- Raised more than \$50,000 through fundraisers, community events and unsolicited donations.
- Donated \$25,000 directly to the Sidney Kimmel Cancer Center in support of Dr. Emens's trial.
- Defined our vision of helping patients enrolled in clinical trials through financial support and community outreach.
- Developed a protocol to fund travel costs for patients enrolled in a clinical trial. This pilot program is being tested by current patients of Dr. Emens's trial.
- Initiated a hospitality program for patients staying at the Hackerman-Patz House on the campus of Johns Hopkins Hospital, including community meals and holiday hospitality.

***Driving Miss Darby Foundation, Inc. is a 501 (c)(3) nonprofit public charity pursuant to the Internal Revenue Code. Your donations, or portions thereof, may be eligible for deduction upon consultation with a tax professional.***

***We thank you so much for your contributions and will continue to be good stewards of your donations as we support the patients who are such a critical component to the success of clinical research.***