



# Funding our purpose

Our fundraising year kicked off to a great start at our benefit dinner. The evening took on a new look altogether. Hosted at the beautiful Country Club of Ocala, the evening revolved around an elegant red and white theme in support of oral cancer awareness and consisted of delicious hors d'oeuvres, live music, a Kindle Fire raffle, and silent and live auctions. Furthermore, oral cancer survivor Dr. Amber Plante shared a touching real life account of her battle with oral cancer. Her success story of fighting this disease in her twenties was an inspiration to all.

With past supporters and several new faces, the evening was a success and profited over \$14,000 for oral, head and neck cancer research.

For those of you in attendance and/or who donated to make this evening possible, thank you! If you missed it, join us at our annual "Semesco Shamble" golf tournament on Friday, November 9, 2012. For player or sponsorship information, please contact Casey Crysler at 352-454-6664 or visit our website at [www.ajsfoundation.org](http://www.ajsfoundation.org).

ANDREW J. SEMESCO  
FOUNDATION, INC.  
for oral, head and neck  
cancer research



*Presentation of fellowship agreement with the University of Florida College of Dentistry Dean - Dr. Teresa Dolan and Biologists - Dr. Donald Cohen and Dr. Edward Chan with Officers and Board Members of the AJS Foundation*

## Fighting cancer and furthering our reach

We have just fulfilled the third of a five year \$175,000 commitment to the University of Florida College of Dentistry. Our funding directly supports oral cancer research by providing resources for the graduate PhD students who are performing the experiments. This research is then used to support grant applications for larger government grant consideration, meaning the *(continues)*



*Founder - Mr. David Young and Ms. Carolyn Clarke at the 2012 Benefit Dinner*

impact of our Foundation can be multiplied greatly.

We also recently directly funded a project with a \$35,000 donation. The researchers have identified a genetic signal that is present in normal cells that acts as a cancer suppressor. This marker, or microRNA, is absent in oral cancer tumors. The researchers have found that re-introducing this marker into oral cancer cells causes death of the tumor. Our recent donation is being used to find a way to conveniently introduce the microRNA into the tumor cells as a cancer treatment method.

The Foundation is also continually supporting the University of Florida College of Medicine and the endowment we established. The Andrew J. Semesco Foundation Fund for Oral, Head and Neck Cancer Research has a principal balance of



*2010 Semesco Shamble Golf Chairpersons Mrs. Casey Crysler and Mrs. Jennifer Hatchett*

over \$180,000. The interest from this fund is used annually to support research projects at the College.

***Help us fund research, fight cancer & further our reach!***

We need your help today! The Andrew J. Semesco Foundation is

solely operated by dedicated volunteers, allowing 99% of all monies raised to go directly to cancer research. Thank you for considering the Andrew J. Semesco Foundation in your annual giving and helping us remember a life that touched so many.



I want to make an immediate impact on oral cancer research by donating to the Andrew J. Semesco Foundation.

Your donation will be used for:

- University of Florida College of Medicine (in support of the Andrew J. Semesco Endowment Fund for Oral, Head and Neck Cancer Research)
- University of Florida College of Dentistry (in support of genetic research in oral cancer detection and therapy)



Enclosed is my gift for:  \$500  \$250  \$100  Other \_\_\_\_\_

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ E-mail: \_\_\_\_\_

In Honor or In Memory of (circle one): \_\_\_\_\_

Name & Address: (of honoree or family member of person in remembrance)



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Please mail completed form with check payable to: AJS Foundation, Inc., PO Box 5577, Ocala, FL 34478 or donate now online at [www.ajsfoundation.org](http://www.ajsfoundation.org). The Andrew J. Semesco Foundation is recognized by the IRS as a 501(c)3 not-for-profit corporation. All contributions to AJS are tax deductible.