

Bicyclists raise \$28,000 for breast cancer research

Nine years ago, Kathy McDonald was diagnosed with inflammatory breast cancer.

After three years of treatment she and her husband, John, decided they should join a fundraiser to raise money for breast cancer awareness.

In 2002, Kathy found Bike4breastcancer. She met with national chairperson Kathy Betz and began planning the first annual Pink Ribbon Ride. The first ride was scheduled for June 21, 2003, and the total amount of money raised was to be split between Northern Michigan Regional Hospital Foundation and Charlevoix Area Hospital Foundation Circle of Strength. Sadly, Kathy MacDonald passed away in January of 2003, never getting to be a part of the first bike ride. Kathy's family and friends are still very much involved in this event. Her husband John, sons, Robert and David, bother, Dean Lucier, and sister, Char Schuman, have participated each year since 2003.

Since Bike4breastcancer started, it has raised a total of \$123,919 with a total of \$48,301 going toward the Breast Health Fund. This year, the Pink Ribbon Ride raised \$28,018, with a donation of \$10,700 going to the North-



COURTESY PHOTO

Sue Morris (from left), Maureen Babrick, Lynda Bartosh and Jim Flickema hold a donation in the amount of \$10,700 to the Northern Michigan Regional Hospital Foundation Breast Health Fund from this year's Pink Ribbon Ride which raised a total of \$28,018.

ern Michigan Regional Hospital Foundation Breast Health Fund. The remaining balance went to the Charlevoix Area Hospital Foundation's Circle of Strength program.

"For six years now, Bike4breastcancer has generously contributed to the foundation's breast health fund and last year's donation helped us to purchase digital mammography equipment that has already begun to save lives. On behalf of our patients — our community's mothers, daughters, sisters, wives, and friends — we are so grateful for the support from bike4breastcancer. Their gift is making a real and lasting impact on the lives of many in Northern Michigan," said Moon

Seagren, executive director of the Northern Michigan Regional Hospital Foundation.

"On behalf of the Northern Michigan Regional Hospital's Breast Health Department, Northern Michigan Regional Hospital Foundation and our patients, we very much appreciate the dedication and passion that Sue Morris and the participants of Bike4breastcancer have shown with their generous donation from their recent fundraising event," added Jim Flickema, senior director of Professional Services at the hospital. "This community support has helped provide for significant technology upgrades that benefit many patients in our community. Thanks so much!"