



MS Achievement Award recipient Randy Templeton

Mid America Chapter hosts annual celebration

The event recognized fundraising strides, volunteer achievements and the people that make our work possible.

On November 9, the Mid America Chapter gathered to celebrate the hard work and many accomplishments of this year. We re-

energized our traditional annual meeting to recognize how a variety of people work together. The theme "Hats Off to You!" showed our enthusiasm and appreciation for the fundraisers and volunteers who go above and beyond to make a difference.

Awards were presented to the following individuals for their dedication to a world free of MS.

Bob Sturm of Roeland Park, KS

Caregiver of the Year

Bob's wife Sharon has lived with MS for more than 30 years. He takes care of her without thinking twice, as she is slowly losing her sight and mobility each day. The love and

support the two share are examples for all.

Deb Coleman of Miltonvale, KS

Parent of the Year

Deb was nominated by her daughter Jennifer who was diagnosed in 1999. By helping Jennifer finish college, plan her wedding and manage the day-to-day activities in her household, Deb works tirelessly to help her daughter move forward with her life.

Karen Crain of Liberty, MO

Self Help Group Leader of the Year

Karen's knowledge and moral support are invaluable to her group members. She helps them recognize the problems they're facing and solve them with the support of the group .

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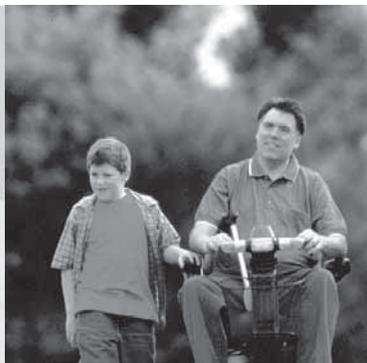
Hats Off to You!

Thank you for your support in 2007. With your help, we move closer to a world free of MS.

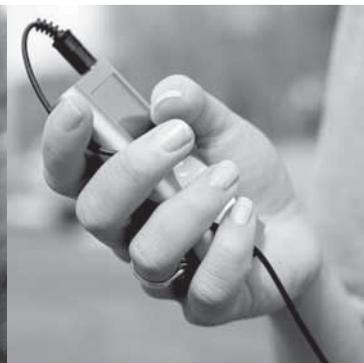
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1-800-344-4867

Publication of the
National Multiple Sclerosis Society
Mid America Chapter
7611 State Line Road, Suite 100
Kansas City, MO 64114

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If You or Someone You Know Has MS

Studies show that early and ongoing treatment with an FDA-approved therapy can reduce future disease activity and improve quality of life for many people with multiple sclerosis. Talk to your health care professional or contact the National MS Society at www.nationalmssociety.org or 1-800-344-4867 to learn about ways to help manage multiple sclerosis and about current research that may one day reveal a cure.

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Information provided by the Society is based upon professional advice, published experience and expert opinion. Information provided in response to questions does not constitute therapeutic recommendations or prescriptions. The National Multiple Sclerosis Society recommends that all questions and information be discussed with a personal physician.

The National Multiple Sclerosis Society is dedicated to ending the devastating effects of MS.

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Mid America Chapter

Dr. Arthur Allen of Overland Park, KS

Medical Professional of the Year

Dr. Allen's caring nature and quality professional opinion are evident to his patients. He carefully looks after their overall health in addition to treating MS.

Sherry Wollschlager of Independence, MO

Volunteer of the Year

Sherry's sister Teresa has MS, and Sherry has motivated her entire family to get involved with the MS Society. A dedicated event volunteer, Sherry also generously shares her time and energy with Teresa's self help group.

Rep. Paul LeVota (MO's 52nd), Sen. Chris Koster (MO's 31st) and Rep. Ryan Silvey (MO's 38th)

Committed Statespeople of the Year

These individuals have been good friends and supporters of the MS Society this year. Their attention to our cause will further efforts to improve life for people with MS across the area.

Randy Templeton of Springfield, MO

MS Achievement Award

Randy has been an inspiration to his family and friends since his diagnosis in 2002. He works full-time, volunteers for the Society, enjoys many hobbies and has climbed 13 of the largest mountains in Colorado. Randy achieves regardless of his diagnosis with MS.

The Mid America Chapter also recognized the outstanding fundraisers from our 2007 special events. Mission Possible Club members (those who have raised at least \$5,500 or \$1 for every person in our Chapter living with MS) and MS Bike Ride team awards were given.

The evening concluded with Board member Candi Moss conducting a brief vote to allow new members Jim Lawrence (Bryan Cave), Kevin Istas (Walton Construction), Brad McAnally (Hy-Vee) and Scott Stalcup (GouldEvans) to take their positions.



Hats Off to You attendees

Society-funded researchers discover two new “MS risk” genes

MS is not a single-gene disorder. Researchers have already concluded that the disease involves many genes interacting with some environmental trigger or triggers.

Locating the specific genes that are associated with a higher risk for MS can tell scientists more about how the disease works—and may lead to new therapies.

For more than a decade, the National MS Society has taken the lead, aggressively funding MS genetics research. It helped launch the International Multiple Sclerosis Genetics Consortium (IMSGC), a collaborative group of researchers with expertise in genetics, database design, and immunology who pool the large amounts of data needed for genetics studies.

New findings

This year, the IMSGC completed the largest genome scan for MS to date. Using a DNA chip that maps 500,000 individual genetic locations they found two genetic variations strongly associated with MS.

The variations were found in the genes for **interleukin-2 receptor-alpha** and **interleukin-7 receptor-alpha**, both of which control **cytokines**—the messenger proteins that regulate immune cells. Interleukin-2 and -7 have been associated with T cells that have the power to turn off an immune attack. Research has shown that interleukin-2 is

involved in other auto-immune diseases, including type 1 diabetes.

The IMSGC published these findings in an early online edition of **The New England Journal of Medicine** (July 29, 2007). The study was jointly funded by the Society and Harvard University. All of the data from the gene scan is being made publicly available to aid future research.



Two studies confirm findings

Two papers published online in **Nature Genetics** on July 29 reported similar findings associating interleukin-7 with MS.

In the first, an international group of collaborators funded in part by the Society explored three genes that had earlier been associated with MS. The group was able to confirm an association with the gene for interleukin-7.

The second paper—by collaborators in Sweden, Denmark, Finland, and Norway—followed up an earlier study and also identified interleukin-7.

The road ahead

The findings of all three studies suggest possible new targets for better MS therapies. One therapy is already being tested. The monoclonal antibody “daclizumab” (PDL BioPharma and Biogen Idec) targets interleukin-2 receptor-alpha.

2007 Scholarship Program biggest yet

This year the MS Society Scholarship Program has awarded 332 scholarships to college-bound high school students and graduates. The program has grown exponentially since it was launched five years ago. If you are interested in sponsoring the program locally, please contact Leslie Hansen at (913) 432-3927.

Local Recipients

In the Mid America Chapter, three scholarship recipients were named. Kyle Haeusser of Overland Park, Kan., Nathan Bunse of Cosby, Mo. and Anna Archibald of Neodesha, Kan. were each given \$1,000 to move their education forward. You can learn about their experience with MS in their own words.



"About fourteen years ago my Dad was diagnosed with MS, but he really didn't show many signs and symptoms. Lately, his condition has rapidly declined; so much so that

he is confined to an electric scooter. With my two older brothers off to college and my three little siblings just starting grade school, the responsibilities of a normal father have been put on my shoulders. Daily I have to make many sacrifices, but the respect given to me from my father and the gratitude of my father make everything worth it in the end."

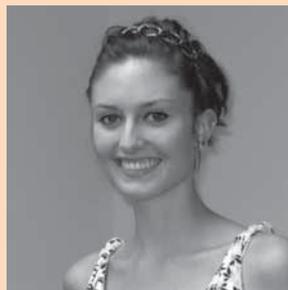
- Kyle Haeusser

"Even though my mother has very few side effects from her MS, I have been able to see some things that bother her that she holds back from many people. She has inspired me through the years, and has helped teach me



that I should always try my very hardest, even though through the hardest of times. I am not sure what I would be like if my mother had not been diagnosed with MS. I believe, though, that through her struggles I have also become a stronger person and have learned to never give up."

- Nathan Bunse



"Ever since I can remember, my dad has had multiple sclerosis. When I was younger, I thought it was completely normal, and for me, it was - until I went to school. All of

a sudden, I had classmates asking me what was wrong with my dad, and I had no idea how to respond to it, so I began to take every opportunity I could to learn more about MS...I realized that this disease did not only have a huge affect on his life, but on my mother's and mine as well."

- Anna Archibald

Eligibility for 2008

High school seniors or graduates who have MS or a parent with MS and who will be attending an accredited post secondary school for the first time next fall are eligible.

Applications and information can be downloaded at **nationalmssociety.org/scholarship**. Or call us at **1-800-344-4867** to receive a copy by mail. Completed applications are due January 15, 2008.

For help with filling out the form, contact Scholarship America, a non-profit organization that receives and screens the applications, at **1-800-537-4180**, ext. **471**.

United Seating & Mobility Becomes New Durable Medical Equipment Closet in Kansas City

United Seating & Mobility provides seating and mobility solutions for people with disabilities while considering the patients' long-term needs, their work and home environment, access to transportation, social and emotional environments.



With over 30 years of experience in the industry, United Seating is one of the nation's leading home medical equipment suppliers and is accredited by The Accreditation Commission for Health Care, Inc. United Seating has coverage in 11 states with 26 branches and continuous expansion nationwide.

Please feel free to visit www.unitedseating.com for more information containing resourceful links to accessible travel options, enlisted manufacturers and relevant professional organizations.

If you or someone you love is in need of a scooter, walker or other medical device, please call the National MS Society at 1-800-344-4867 and press or say 2. The closet would also love donations of any new or gently used durable equipment. Contact us if you'd like to help!

New Office Location in Kansas City



7611 State Line Road

The Mid America Chapter's primary office is re-locating to provide continued growth in visibility and service to our 105-county area. We are proud to have a new location that will move us closer to a world free of MS!

National Multiple Sclerosis Society
Mid America Chapter
7611 State Line Road, Suite 100
Kansas City, MO 64114

Our phone number and email address will remain the same.

(913) 432-3926, press 2
www.msamidamerica.org

1-800-344-4867
info@nmsskc.org

Some plain talk about life insurance

by Kim Calder, MPS

Can a person with MS purchase life insurance? This is one of many insurance-related questions that may arise after a diagnosis of MS. The facts provide a somewhat mixed outlook for those who hope to include life insurance in their personal financial plans.

A survey of Society members living with MS conducted last year revealed that nearly 70% have a life insurance policy, although most of them obtained it prior to diagnosis. Slightly more than half of those who tried to get life insurance for the first time after diagnosis were turned down. But among those who obtained it after diagnosis, 70.1% reported no difficulty in purchasing it. About 16% reported being charged a higher rate because of MS and 20% said their coverage was limited due to their disease. (It is not known if the applicants who were turned down were different from those who were accepted. Were they older, for example, or more severely disabled?)

Risk is a complicated concept, because it relies on averages. A few people with MS who develop very progressive disease die prematurely of its complications (such as respiratory infections, for example). Thus overall life expectancy in MS is considered to be 95% of normal. Insurance companies give their best policy terms to the “best bets”—to people who are in perfect health. But that doesn’t mean a person with MS can’t obtain a policy, as our research showed. Here are some general tips for shopping for life insurance:

- Maximize your opportunities to obtain life insurance through your own or your spouse’s employer. (Your spouse should do the same!)
- An insurance broker could save you a lot of time and frustration. Call an MS Navigator at our chapter to help you find one.



- Apply for life insurance as early in your disease process as possible, before MS has a chance to impair your functioning any further.
- Never try to hide your diagnosis from an insurance company or a broker working on your behalf. Failure to disclose any requested information is fraud, which could bring very severe (even criminal) penalties.
- If you are not satisfied with the offers you receive, keep searching.

If you are ultimately unable to purchase the life insurance coverage you are looking for, a good financial planner may be able to suggest other strategies to help you reach your financial goals and provide protection for your future. Ask your MS Navigator to help you identify a financial planner with whom you can review all the issues.

MS and Intimacy

by Tanya Radford

What is intimacy? Is it sex, love, touching, honesty, commitment, acceptance? Or is it vulnerability, fear of rejection, sexual difficulties, shame? For many people with MS, intimacy is all of these things—the good and the bad.



Confronting the challenges of MS draws many couples closer together. Talking about problems and developing solutions can deepen both partners' sense of intimacy. But MS can also create barriers. People often report that their relationships suffer as a consequence of MS. Many people don't talk easily about their sexuality—either the positive aspects or the anxieties associated with it.

Although study results vary somewhat, it seems clear that people with MS do experience more sexual problems than the general population. MS can affect sexuality both directly and indirectly.

Difficulty with sex is quite common among humans in general. Happily, there are many sources of help and support. The primary care physician can usually start the process of identifying the source of problems and offer both medical and non-medical treatment options and/or referrals. But often, the person with MS has to bring up the subject.

An easy way to begin is by requesting regular checkups related to sexual health. For women, annual breast and pelvic exams, a pap smear, and, after age 40, mammograms. For men, testicular cancer screening, prostate exams, and, after 40, PSA tests. For both sexes, birth control and HIV prevention advice. These requests not only protect health, they'll remind

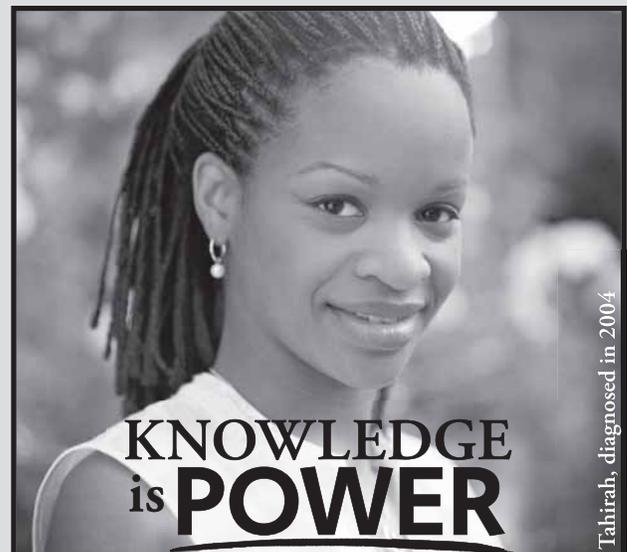
your health-care provider that you are a sexual being, despite the MS diagnosis. You may then find it easier to report personal symptoms and ask questions.

The essential point

Intimacy and sexuality are important components of a healthy and contented life.

Sexuality does not have to disappear from the lives of couples when one partner has MS. Instead, partners can find satisfying approaches to sexual intimacy that overcome the barriers.

If you would like more information about intimacy and MS, please talk with a member of the MS Society staff. Call 1-800-344-4867 and press or say 1.



Knowledge Is Power is a six-week, free, at-home educational program for people who are newly diagnosed. Mail or e-mail formats. To register, call **1-800-344-4867**, or visit nationalmssociety.org/knowledge.

This is why we're here.



Listen up!

The National MS Society's Web site features a number of sound files, including **podcasts** and archived **webcasts**, offering easy listening at your convenience. And beginning December 2007, an audio version of the national magazine, **Momentum** (formerly **InsideMS**), will also be available.

I've never used a sound file before!

Actually, you probably have. A sound file is simply any electronic file that contains digital information to reproduce sound. CDs use very large sound files, using something called PCM coding.

Because of their large size they aren't used much on the Internet. Instead, files on the Web are usually in the **MP3** format.

What does that mean to me?

The MP3 is compressed, eliminating portions of the audio file that are essentially unnecessary. That means you can download them relatively quickly. The Society's podcasts, archived webcasts, and the new audio version of **Momentum** are saved as MP3 files.

How do I listen to an MP3 file?

Let's try one of the Society's podcasts as an example. First, go to **nationalmssociety.org/podcasts** and find a podcast that interests you.

To listen to it immediately, just click on the link as you normally would and the file will

play automatically in your browser. Most browsers (e.g., Internet Explorer, Safari, etc.) will have the appropriate player already installed. If yours does not, you will be prompted to download it at no cost.

You can also download the audio file to your computer by placing your cursor on the link and clicking the right-hand side of your mouse (right click). (Mac users, hold down the Apple key, then click.) Choose "Save

Target As ..." and then choose where on your computer you want to save the file. You should be able to choose "Desktop," for example.

Depending on whether you have a modem (telephone line) or broadband Internet connection, this will take a few seconds or a minute or so. Once the file is downloaded, you can select "open" and the file will begin to

play right on your computer.

If you would like to listen on your portable MP3 player, such as an iPod, simply move the file to the subdirectory where you keep your song files, then import the file into your MP3 management software, such as iTunes or Zune.



For more help

Apple Computers
www.apple.com/itunes

Yahoo Podcasts
podcasts.yahoo.com

Zune
www.zune.net

About.com
mp3.about.com

Get Connected with Technology

We are pleased to announce the Mid America Chapter has been chosen as a pilot chapter for the new **Technology Connector** program.



As a part of the MS Technology Collaborative, this exciting new program is designed to help you learn how you can maximize technology in your daily life.

If you are interested in learning about assistive, accessible and customized technology solutions, call 1-800-344-4867.

The program is currently available at these locations: Abilene, Beloit, Concordia, Sedalia and Kansas City. More will be added soon!

We are also looking for Technology Connectors. If you enjoy technology and would like to help others learn, you might make a great Technology Connector.

Connectors will receive training through the Microsoft Accessibility Resource Center in your area. Financial support is available for transportation and expenses. If you are interested in becoming a Technology Connector, call Judy Oberheu at 1-800-344-4867, press or say 2.

The MS Technology Collaborative is a partnership between the National MS Society, Microsoft and Bayer HealthCare.

The goal of the Collaborative is to provide people with MS information, resources and tools that build a connection between technology, community and treatment options so they can stay connected to the world and move their lives forward.

Wellness Near You

Swim Fit Aquatics

YWCA of Topeka
225 SW 12th St.; Topeka, KS
Mondays & Wednesdays, 11 a.m.-1 p.m.
Fridays, 8:45-9:30 a.m. & 10:15 a.m.-1 p.m.

Yoga for MS

YWCA of Topeka
225 SW 12th St.; Topeka, KS
Mondays & Wednesdays, 5:30-6:30 p.m.
Tuesdays, 12:15-12:50 p.m.
Saturdays, 11 a.m.-noon

MS Aquatics Classes

St. John's Sports Center
2135 South Fremont Ave.; Springfield, MO
Tuesdays and Thursdays
8:30-9:30 a.m. and 5:30-6:30 p.m.

Yoga in Chairs

Roger T. Sermon Community Center
201 N. Dodgion; Independence, MO
Tuesdays, 10:30-11:30 a.m.

North Lindenwood Support Center
315 North Lindenwood Drive; Olathe, KS
Wednesdays, 6-7 p.m.

Lee's Summit United Methodist Church
114 SE Douglas Street; Lee's Summit, MO
Thursdays, 2-3 p.m.

YMCA MS Wellness Program

Red Bridge YMCA
11300 Holmes Rd.; Kansas City, MO
Wednesdays, 1-2 p.m. Land class
Fridays, 1-2 p.m. Aquatics class

Contact your Representatives in Congress to Support the Access to Life-Saving Medicine Act

For the 400,000 individuals nationwide who live with the devastating effects of MS, the Access to Life-Saving Medicine Act (H.R. 1038 and S. 623) would provide a statutory pathway for the Food and Drug Administration (FDA) to review and approve safe, effective, and affordable biological therapies.

Generic drugs have been extremely successful in bringing down the high cost of prescription drugs, saving patients and taxpayers \$10 billion annually. Currently, there is no generic competition for one of the most expensive, fastest growing categories of drugs: biological drugs or biopharmaceuticals. Biotech drugs, which are produced from living cell cultures rather than synthesized chemically, promise a new generation of life-altering treatments. However, they are expensive, beyond the financial resources of many Americans.

The National MS Society urges Congress to support the Access to Life-Saving Medicine Act (H.R. 1038 and S. 623) so that safe, effective, and lower-cost versions of biotech drugs can come into the marketplace once the patents on the brand name medicine expire.

This legislation would allow FDA to approve applications for generic versions of biotech drugs licensed under the Public Health Services Act. The bill establishes a scientifically rigorous process for approval of generics. It authorizes the FDA to determine, on a product-by-product basis, what studies will be necessary to show that a new product

is clinically comparable to the brand name product.

People with MS know that the drugs that offer their best hope in the fight against the disease usually cost tens of thousands of dollars a year, even after patent expiration. Patients with private insurance may find that the co-payments alone can reach thousands of dollars a year. Common sense tells us that even the most advanced treatments are not effective if they are not accessible to the patients who need them.

Please contact your representatives in the US Congress and ask them to support the Life-Saving Medicine Act (H.R. 1038 & S. 623). Not sure of your Congresspersons' names or phone numbers? Visit www.house.gov/writerep and www.senate.gov for this information.

NEW GIFT IDEA



MS Crocs are now available! Visit www.crocs.com/cares and click on the MS Society logo. \$2 goes back to the Society and you receive a free MS logo "Jibbitz" with every purchase of MS Crocs. Pick up your pair today!

MS Caucus gains power

This summer the Society announced the new Congressional Multiple Sclerosis Caucus in the U.S. House of Representatives. This Caucus is the first of its kind, and provides the MS movement with champions in Congress to support MS issues. Congressmen Russ Carnahan (D, Missouri) and Michael Burgess (R, Texas) are co-chairing. As of late September, 38 members have joined. (For the current list, visit msactivist.blogspot.com.)



Congressman Russ Carnahan



Congressman Michael Burgess

Keep the momentum building

The MS Caucus gives the movement to end MS an effective presence on Capitol Hill. If your U.S. Representative has not yet signed on, encourage him or her to do so. Go to nationalmssociety.org/advocacy, click on **Announcing New Congressional MS Caucus**, and enter your ZIP Code.

The push for new MS research funding

For the past year, the Society and thousands of MS activists have been aggressively pursuing a new avenue of federal funding for MS research:

Legislation that would designate \$15 million for MS research through the Congressionally Directed Medical Research Programs (CDMRP) at the Department of Defense.

Unfortunately, the bill that passed in the House on August 5, 2007, did not include funding for MS research. But MS activists did not give up. In late September, Congressman John Murtha (D, Pennsylvania) finally agreed to fight for at least \$10 million for MS research during the conference committee, which came after the Senate voted on the bill.

When the Senate Defense Appropriations Subcommittee approved their FY 2008 spending in mid-September, the bill included language to support MS research. Even though it was not in the program we requested, it will provide a new avenue for funding. We will continue pursuing CDMRP.

About the funds

The CDMRP provides funding for research through the Department of Defense as directed by members of Congress. Activists believe that MS research would be an appropriate target of these funds: A study published in 2004 identified more than 5,000 cases of MS among veterans that were deemed "service-connected."

In late 2006, the Society began a nationwide petition drive urging Congress to support funding for MS research through the CDMRP. The petition garnered more than 100,000 signatures.

In March 2007, MS activists who attended the annual MS Public Policy Conference in Washington, DC, brought the issue to Capitol Hill in person.

What's next

For the latest, go to msactivist.blogspot.com, and to learn how to help, join the movement at nationalmssociety.org/advocacy.

Everyday heroes

Last year Jeanne Clem of Kentucky wrote the national office: “What I want for Christmas is to hear from everyday heroes who deserve to be heard. You hear celebrities’ stories on the news. But you don’t hear, Two years ago today, Jeanne Clem was diagnosed with multiple sclerosis and her employment along with bits of her life were terminated—but here she is now, celebrating small victories!”

To accommodate this universal need, the Society created **theFaceofMS.org** in March 2006. People have been posting stories there ever since. Here are two of them.

Tom Young, Ohio

About 10 years or so ago, I was diagnosed with “probable” MS. Later the diagnosis became more definite....



My family MD said, “expect interesting symptoms.” He was certainly right about that. Some of the interesting symptoms included a sensation of flashing lights when I was in total darkness. Of course the less interesting symptoms bother me the most. The real bummer is that I have almost no sense of balance. I can only remain upright if I can see a horizon.

The progression of the disease has been very slow because I’ve been taking a very expensive drug. I’m still working. I did, however, give up flying airplanes. If my sense of balance ever comes back the first thing I’m going to try to get is the required medical certificate and fly an airplane again.

Michele Mogck, Montana

I was diagnosed six years ago, shortly after the birth of my beautiful daughter. People look at me strangely when I tell them that I feel MS is probably one of the best things that has ever happened to me. I have always been very driven—focused—never letting anything stand in my way. I was so focused, I was never, really, in the present.



I’ve learned not to take things for granted—and to be thankful for everything that I do have. I shudder to think that had it not been for my MS, how quickly life would have passed without me taking the time to cherish, love, and just enjoy.

Visit **FaceofMS.org** for many many more stories—and to add (or update) your own!

TAMING WORK STRESS



Take a short break right at your desk. Mute the phone and the computer. Take off your glasses if you wear them. To help slow down your mind, inhale while thinking the word “peace,” then exhale to the word “tension.” Even five minutes of quiet breathing can bring some relief.

For more ideas, visit our brochure *Taming Stress* at nationalmssociety.org/TamingStress. Or call us for a printed copy.

Create a Lasting Tribute

The MS Society now offers the opportunity to create a personalized Memorial or Tribute fund.

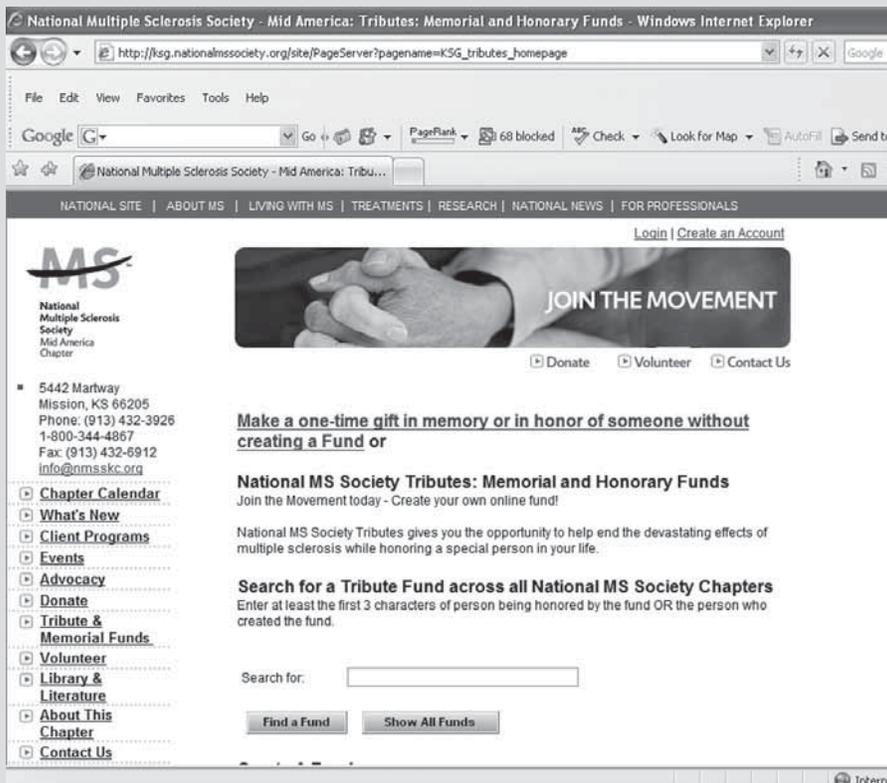
Are you celebrating a milestone birthday or special occasion? Do you want to honor a loved one, recognize an accomplishment or just say thank you? Do you want to create a memorial fund for a loved one who has passed? The MS Society now has an easy way for you to share your story with your friends and family and help end the devastating effects of multiple sclerosis by creating a Fund through our web site. This is a unique opportunity to honor a special person in your life.

Visit our web site today at www.msmidamerica.org and click on the Memorial & Tribute Fund tab on the left hand side of the page. Once established, your fund will include a web page that you can personalize with photos and stories, send e-mails and will contain tools to track your progress. The web page provides the opportunity for others to make an online donation on behalf of the honoree.

NATIONAL GIVING



In 2006, the Society received a \$1 million contribution from an individual philanthropist to launch a national fund to provide emergency assistance for people with MS and their families.



Use Find a Fund to locate an existing Fund Web Page of someone you know and care about. For questions about creating a Fund or locating an established Fund, please contact Leslie Hansen at lhansen@nmsskc.org or by calling 1-800-344-4867, press 2.

Dinner of Champions Raises \$450,000 for MS

The National MS Society honored Peter C. Brown and AMC Entertainment Inc. at its Dinner of Champions on Thursday, September 27. The annual event, held at the Muehlebach Tower of the Downtown Marriott, recognizes individuals who have made significant contributions to the civic, philanthropic and business areas of Kansas City. The evening raised a Chapter record of \$450,000, and funds will go to research and programs to help more than 5,500 individuals with MS in our area.



Peter C. Brown

"Peter is the ideal recipient for the Hope Award, the MS Society's highest honor. His dedication to the Kansas City community is evident in his personal and professional life," said Kay Julian, Mid America Chapter President. "He continually supports and strengthens the business community, as well as the charitable efforts that benefit from his support."

The evening featured guest speaker Jonathan Katz, best known for his work on *Dr. Katz: Professional Therapist*. Katz spoke humorously about his life with multiple sclerosis and how he has worked to overcome its challenges. A tribute to Peter C. Brown followed, noting his dedication to his family, his business and his hometown of Kansas City. The event closed with Brown accepting the Hope Award and thanking the audience for their efforts toward a world free of multiple sclerosis.

Many thanks to our sponsors for the evening:

Platinum AMC Entertainment Inc., Coca-Cola, Universal Pictures

Gold Entertainment Properties Trust

Champion Bain Capital, DST, Forest City, John and Jacolyn Bucksbaum, Goldman Sachs, Lionsgate Films, MGM, New Line Cinema, Paramount Pictures Motion Picture Distribution, Rowan Family Foundation Inc., Simon Property Group, Sony Pictures Entertainment, The Weinstein Company, Walt Disney Motion Picture Group and Warner Bros.



Jonathan Katz

MS Bike Ride Reaches \$2 Million!



More than 2,700 riders join the movement to a cure

The 2007 MS Bike Ride is complete, and those fundraising dollars are already hard at work! On Sept. 8 & 9, the Kansas City Branch held its 24th annual ride. The 23rd Ozark MS Bike Ride followed on Sept. 15 and 16. The final event was the 21st Eastern Kansas MS Bike Ride on Sept. 22 and 23. Collectively, the Mid America Chapter rides raised \$2 million and moved us all closer to a world free of MS.

This inspiring goal would be impossible without hundreds of volunteers, crew members, donors, cheerleaders and Champions Against MS. Once again, we had a great response from people with MS and their carepartners interested in pairing with a cyclist to help them meet and exceed their tremendous goals.

We'd also like to thank the many official sponsors of the MS Bike Ride listed below:



FUNDRAISING

"Thanks for all your hard work on another amazing year! It means a lot to those with MS. The money you helped raise provides hope for a cure."
- David Eaton, MS Bike Ride participant



Rick Tague M.D., M.P.H.

Serving patients in the pursuit of optimal health, emphasizing nutrition and preventive medicine.



Volunteer Opportunities

Call 1-800-344-4867 and press 2 to sign up!

Fall Re-Cap

- The MS Bike Ride raised more than \$2 million with the help of over 1400 volunteers.
- Volunteers delivered dozens of turkey dinners to people with MS before Thanksgiving.
- Several volunteers helped rake and bag leaves for people with MS across the Kansas City metro.
- A similar opportunity will be available in the Spring to get yards ready for April showers & May flowers.



Fall Clean Up

Friendly Faces Visiting Program

This program provides people with MS social visits from volunteers. Social interaction greatly enhances a person's general well-being and sense of belonging. If you are interested in sharing your time and attention, then you might make a great match.

Speaker's Bureau

If you'd like to share your knowledge with the world, this is a great opportunity to represent the National Multiple Sclerosis Society in the community, at health fairs and at fundraising events.

Walk MS

Walk MS is just around the corner, and we're looking for volunteers to help with registration, entertainment, event set up and clean up, data entry, safety and more.



**National
Multiple Sclerosis
Society
Mid America
Chapter**

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