What will you do?
MS Awareness Week, March 10-17

Mark your calendars! MS Awareness Week takes place March 10-17. This year, we want to recognize the millions of people who have already joined the movement – people like you – and also welcome new people who are joining the MS movement for the first time.

We ask that everyone who is a part of the MS movement take time during MS Awareness Week to do something NOW to show your commitment to ending MS.

How will you join the movement? It’s easy!
The following are some things you can do today and/or on each consecutive day during MS Awareness Week to raise visibility and support for the MS movement:

- Make your mark against MS at nationalMSsociety.org
- Sign up to volunteer at an upcoming chapter event
- Form a team for Walk MS or Bike MS
- Send a letter to the editor of your local newspaper (visit wisMS.org for a sample letter)
- Make your voice heard by emailing your local congress person about an issue important to people with MS
- Tell five people it’s MS Awareness Week – ask them to tell five more people

Make sure to visit nationalMSsociety.org throughout the week to find easy ways to make your mark in ending MS with simple actions that show your commitment to the MS movement.

How Will You Join the Movement?
It’s a new year and, for many, that means a time to make resolutions. I have never been one to make resolutions (and not just because I refuse to cut down on chocolate!). I feel that while resolutions give the appearance of making a positive change for the future; in reality, they make people dwell on what they don’t like about the past.

Instead of looking back, however, why not imagine the potential of moving forward?

In this issue of MS Connection, everyone from researchers to community partners to advocates show us powerful accomplishments with one common thread – a focus on the future.

• With the creation of FastForward, a technology-transfer initiative aimed at turning promising laboratory discoveries into effective MS treatments, the National MS Society moves forward to change the future of those living with MS.

• The MS Snowmobile Tour had its first ever title sponsor, the Forest County Potawatomi Community Foundation, for this year’s 25th anniversary celebration.

• In “Myths About Social Security Appeals”, Tom Busch encourages clients to keep moving forward to receive their benefits, even if it means overcoming past rejections.

And, the stories go on and on.

I encourage you to read the following pages with a forward-thinking mind. If we all look toward the promise of a future free of MS, there is nothing we can’t accomplish.

If you are willing to join me; I will make one, and one only, resolution – to never look back.

Warm regards,

Colleen G. Kalt
President & CEO
### 2008 Calendar of Events

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>March 10 - 17</td>
<td><strong>MS Awareness Week</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>March 13</td>
<td>Legislative Affairs Day - Wisconsin State Capitol, Madison</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>March 14 - 16</td>
<td>Yoga Instructor MS Workshop, Milwaukee</td>
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<tr>
<td>March 25</td>
<td>Wisconsin Chapter Board of Trustees Meeting</td>
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<tr>
<td>April 20</td>
<td><strong>Walk MS</strong>: Brown County</td>
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<tr>
<td>April 27</td>
<td><strong>Walk MS</strong>: Cedarburg, Chippewa Valley – Eau Claire, Fond du Lac, Sheboygan, Waukesha, Wausau</td>
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<tr>
<td>May 4</td>
<td><strong>Walk MS</strong>: Fox Cities, La Crosse – Seven Rivers, Lake Country – Oconomowoc, Madison, Milwaukee, Racine/Kenosha</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>May 9 - 10</td>
<td>Celebrate Your Relationship: Managing MS as a Team, Green Bay</td>
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<tr>
<td>May 16 - 17</td>
<td>MS Family Getaway at the Kalahari, Wisconsin Dells</td>
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<tr>
<td>July 11 - 12</td>
<td>Celebrate Your Relationship: Managing MS as a Team, Madison</td>
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<tr>
<td>July 22</td>
<td>MS Luncheon, Green Bay</td>
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<tr>
<td>July 23</td>
<td>MS Luncheon, Milwaukee</td>
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<tr>
<td>July 25</td>
<td>MS Luncheon, Madison</td>
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<tr>
<td>August 2-3</td>
<td><strong>Bike MS Best Dam Bike Ride</strong>: Waukesha to Whitewater to Madison</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>September 27</td>
<td>MS Family Day at the Zoo, Milwaukee County Zoo</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>October 17-19</td>
<td><strong>Challenge Walk MS</strong>: Door County</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
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For more information or to register for any of these programs or events, please contact the Wisconsin Chapter at (800) 242-3358 or visit www.wisMS.org.
Fast Forward Program Will Bridge the Gap Between University Research and Drug Development, Speeding New Treatments for People With MS

In November of 2007, the National Multiple Sclerosis Society announced the creation of Fast Forward, a technology-transfer initiative aimed at translating promising laboratory discoveries into effective new treatments for multiple sclerosis (MS).

Fast Forward will identify, evaluate and partner with start-up and existing companies to develop novel therapies or repurpose existing drugs for the treatment of MS. Fast Forward, a wholly owned subsidiary of the National MS Society, is currently evaluating business proposals and plans to make initial investments in early 2008.

The National MS Society is one of only a handful of health-related nonprofit organizations in recent years to create technology-transfer programs, driven in part by the lack of progress in drug development for certain diseases.

Dr. Timothy Coetzee, executive director of Fast Forward, said some private corporations are hesitant to invest the time and money needed to develop MS-related treatments because the potential market is considered relatively small. The worldwide market for MS-related therapies is estimated at $4 billion annually, with just six drugs currently available for people with MS.

“It is our responsibility to find innovative and effective ways to fill the gap between university knowledge and commercial treatments and to meet our commitment to people with MS,” Coetzee said.

Fast Forward has already secured $4.5 million of the $30 million it plans to raise during the next six years to fund the investments. Fast Forward expects revenue from the program, generated from royalty and milestone payments achieved from the successful development and commercialization of treatments.

“There is no easy answer to finding treatments for MS, but the answers are there and Fast Forward can help us find them,” said Howard Weiner, a neurologist at Harvard Medical School. “This is an important step in finding better treatments for this disease.”

For more information about this exciting initiative, please visit www.fastforward.org.

Imagine being diagnosed with multiple sclerosis (MS).
Imagine not being able to afford health care or living expenses.
Imagine having to pay an average of $57,000 a year just to live with the disease.

Now, imagine a way to help the 10,000+ people in Wisconsin in this situation.
It’s easy. See the “Donations” Section on your Wisconsin Income Tax form, then donate funding to “multiple sclerosis”.
All donations go directly to aid people with MS.

On Your Tax Return...Make a Mark for MS.
Join us at the MS Family Getaway at the Kalahari

Friday, May 16 - Saturday, May 17, 2008

Who: Families affected by MS.

What: A fun-filled weekend offering opportunities for sharing and learning, workshops on living with MS in the family and access to one of the Midwest’s premier waterparks.

Where: Kalahari Resort and Convention Center, Wisconsin Dells

The National MS Society - Wisconsin Chapter has secured the following reduced room rates:
(all reservations include four waterpark passes)
- Standard Suite - 4 person occupancy
  $99 (Friday night only),
  $129 (Saturday night)+tax

(discounted rates available through April 16, 2008)

To Register, Call the Wisconsin Chapter at 800.242.3358, Option 2
Legislative Affairs Day
Thursday, March 13, 2008

Agenda

Registration & Welcome
(Concourse Hotel)
Light Breakfast Served
10:00-10:30 a.m.

Panel Discussion on Advocacy Issues
Experts in Public Policy
10:30-11:30 a.m.

Break
11:30-11:45 a.m.

Lunch
Small Group Discussions
11:45 a.m. -12:30 p.m.

Scheduled Legislative Appointments
(State Capitol)
Visit State Legislators in Designated Groups
1:00-3:30 p.m.

Please RSVP by March 7, 2008

Call toll-free (800) 242-3358 or (262) 369-4400
(Limited transportation is available)

Visit www.wisMS.org

Join your friends, family, and other people living with Multiple Sclerosis from around the state to advocate for issues that affect you. Held at the Concourse Hotel in Madison and at the State Capitol, the free event includes panel discussions with experts in public policy, lunch, sessions with legislators, and tours of the Capitol.

“Legislative Affairs Day is a wonderful way to make a difference on behalf of the over 10,000 people living with Multiple Sclerosis in Wisconsin,” states Dan Waters, member of the Wisconsin Chapter’s Government Relations Committee. “Legislators take time to hear our stories and see the faces of families living each day with the challenges of MS. It is an opportunity to volunteer your talent and voice on behalf of others.”

Volunteer advocates from past Legislative Affairs Day have generated much awareness and incredible success. In fact, the passage of Act 71 was a direct result of volunteers’ passion and willingness to share their stories with public policy officials.

“Please join us,” encourages Waters. “Legislative Affairs Day is an unique opportunity to impact change, learn about public policy, and share your own story.”

Changing Public Policy to Change Lives.
JOIN THE MOVEMENT.
Through voluntary donations of refunds on the 2006 state income tax forms, Wisconsin residents donated $84,955 for a world free of multiple sclerosis (MS). As outlined in Wisconsin Act 71, the Chapter has designated these funds to provide aid to individuals with MS to improve or maintain their independence.

From September to December, Act 71 funds have been disbursed to 17 individuals living with MS throughout Wisconsin. Each application is reviewed by a committee to ensure accuracy, necessity of request and aid determination. Funds have been given for numerous items, including a stair lift to allow a client to use both levels of her home and ramps to provide several clients the freedom to enter and leave their home at will. In addition, one client needed a new power wheelchair, but she could not afford the 20% co-pay. Thankfully, Act 71 funds made it possible.

Nancy received aid to purchase a scooter lift for her vehicle in September. She wrote, “Thank you all so much. I can do more things with my kids and grandkids, where before I had to stay at home. I want you all to know that you made my world a better place.” The lift has increased her independence, but most importantly, it has allowed her to become more involved with her family and their activities. It has allowed her to keep moving forward.

If you need financial aid for items such as home and auto modifications, durable medical equipment (purchase or repairs) or other expenses to keep you moving forward, please contact the National MS Society – Wisconsin Chapter.

Sample of 2007 Tax Form

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Amount</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>a. Endangered resources</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>b. Packers football stadium</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>c. Breast cancer research</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>d. Veterans trust fund</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>e. Multiple sclerosis</td>
<td>$100</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>f. Firefighters memorial</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>g. Prostate cancer research</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total (add lines a through g)</td>
<td>$100</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

This tax season, please keep these stories in mind while filing your state taxes. On your 2007 tax form, please make a contribution to Act 71. You can contribute whether you are getting a refund or not; just write the donation amount on the line next to the MS logo. Donations can also be made online and through computer tax software.
In November of 2007, the House of Representatives passed legislation, the Temporary Tax Relief Act of 2007 (H.R. 3996), that includes a one-year extension of the Individual Retirement Account (IRA) rollover provision and several other charitable giving incentives.

The version of the IRA rollover provision in H.R. 3996 is exactly the same as current law:

- Donors must be age 70½
- There is a $100,000 annual gap on IRA rollover gifts
- Gifts must be made directly to a charitable organization (no planned or deferred gifts)

The bill changed the termination date of the IRA rollover provision to December 31, 2008, allowing donors another year to take advantage of the giving incentive.

There is no minimum amount needed to qualify, but this tax-free gift opportunity expires December 31, 2008.

Tax-Free Giving Example

Mr. Smith, aged 73, has $150,000 in an IRA. He made a pledge to of $15,000 to the National MS Society this year. He had the choice of giving cash or other assets to fulfill the pledge, but now he has another option. If he transfers $15,000 to the Society from his IRA on or before December 31, 2008, he avoids paying income tax on the $15,000. The Pension Protection Act gives Mr. Smith an easy and convenient way to benefit the National MS Society without tax complications.

Please consult with your tax and financial advisors before making distributions. For additional information on giving to the National MS Society – Wisconsin Chapter, contact Jedd Lapid at 1-800-242-3358 or email jedd.lapid@wisMS.org.

New Video: The Clues of Epidemiology

Are you more likely to have MS if you’re a man or a woman? Over 30 or under 30? If you live at the beach or in the mountains? What do “clusters,” or high concentrations of people with MS in specific geographical areas, tell us about the disease?

Discover the answers—and the relevance of these questions for people living with MS—in the Society’s new MS Learn Online video series, The Clues of Epidemiology.

Emmy Award-winning broadcast news anchor Anne Trujillo explores epidemiology, or the study of disease patterns, in this two-part documentary, featuring internationally renowned epidemiologists.

To view the two 15-minute segments, go to nationalmssociety.org/mslearnonline.

Focus on Employment: How to Stay in the Game

This PDF-only Web publication is a reprint, with updates, of a special section of InsideMS from 2006. Read about:

- When to disclose—and why you may or may not want to
- The Americans with Disabilities Act
- Managing fatigue and cognitive issues at work
- Working from home on the phone

To download a free copy, go to nationalmssociety.org and visit the Brochures section of the Library. No Web access? Call us and we’ll send you a copy.

Research Directions in Multiple Sclerosis

This brand-new publication—written by Drs. John Richert and Diana M. Schneider—explores recent advances in MS research: what we know now, and where research will be headed for the next decade. Dr. Richert is the executive vice president of Research and Clinical Programs at the Society and Dr. Schneider is president and CEO of DiaMed, LLC/DiaMedica Publications.

To download a free copy, go to nationalmssociety.org and visit the Brochures section of the Library.
Handling an MS Attack

An exacerbation (also called an attack, a relapse or a flare) is caused by inflammation in the central nervous system, which leads to a sudden worsening of an MS symptom or symptoms, or the appearance of new symptoms. An exacerbation usually lasts several days to several weeks.

While you may not be able to change the fact of an exacerbation, you can work on changing how you respond to it. Here are some tips:

• So you missed your workout, had a fight with your spouse and ate a giant piece of chocolate cake—none of those caused your exacerbation. **An exacerbation doesn’t mean you did something “wrong,”** so don’t stress trying to figure out why it happened.

• **Most exacerbations resolve on their own.** Or your doctor may prescribe a course of steroids if your symptoms interfere with work or life at home. It’s important to get the rest you need and talk to your doctor about the best way to manage whatever symptoms you are having.

• **An exacerbation doesn’t mean your disease-modifying medication isn’t working.** In fact, none of the available medications stops the disease completely. Work with your doctor to decide if your current medication needs to be changed.

• “Pseudoexacerbations”—temporary aggravations of MS symptoms—can happen if you get overheated, overtired or run a fever. The symptoms will gradually disappear as your body temperature returns to normal. But if you’re worried—or the symptoms don’t get better—don’t hesitate to call your doctor.


All Hail Inventions

The da Vinci Awards recognize innovative adaptive and assistive technologies that can overcome challenges as much as their users do. The 2007 recipients of the awards, founded by Michigan chapter volunteer Michael Rokosz, were honored in September at a black-tie dinner at the Ritz-Carlton Hotel in Dearborn, Michigan. This year’s winners include:

**High tech mobility**
WalkAide ([walkaide.com](http://walkaide.com)) uses electrical stimulation to help people with foot drop. This battery-operated device, approved by the FDA in 2006, is worn just below the knee and costs $4,495. Not all causes of foot drop will respond to the WalkAide technology, so a careful assessment by a professional is necessary. Insurance companies may not reimburse the cost—ask your insurer.

**Conquering the car**
Another recipient was the Handybar ([handybar.com](http://handybar.com)). This affordable lightweight portable handle with a nonslip grip fits into car doors to provide support when getting out. But you may not need to get out as often, thanks to the FuelCall System ([inclusionsolutions.com/gasstations.htm](http://inclusionsolutions.com/gasstations.htm)). FuelCall allows drivers with disabilities to push a button at a service station that signals employees to refuel their car.

**Visionary technology**
EagleEyes ([eagleeyes.org](http://eagleeyes.org)) is a program developed by Boston College that allows users to point and click at a computer screen using eye movements. Boston College recently signed a licensing agreement with the Opportunity Foundation of America to build miniature EagleEyes and distribute them free to universities, special needs schools, centers for assistive technology, and non-profit organizations in the U.S. and U.K.

Nominees for the da Vinci Awards represent an international spectrum of sciences, technologies, and industries. Nomination forms for the 2008 da Vinci Awards are available at [davinciawards.org](http://davinciawards.org) and submissions are due by May 19, 2008.
Celebrate Your Relationship: Managing MS as a Team

Couples living with MS have unique challenges. Explore ways to develop a team approach to living well with MS.

This program offers couples the tools to: approach MS as a team, discover a sense of power over your MS, enhance your interpersonal communication and renew commitment in your relationship.

Couples program includes: workshop materials, and a copy of *The Art of Living with Multiple Sclerosis* by Len and Cheryl Chatman.

**Friday, May 9 and Saturday, May 10, 2008**
*Green Bay*

**Friday, July 11 and Saturday, July 12, 2008**
*Madison*

Cost: $20.00 per couple
Check or credit card

Includes: Friday Evening Program, including Dessert and Coffee, Continental Breakfast on Saturday, Saturday Program, including Lunch, Workshop Fees, and Materials

**Presenters:**
*Len and Cheryl Chatman*

Len and Cheryl, who have been married for over 20 years, have a personal connection to MS. Cheryl was diagnosed with the relapsing-remitting form of the disease in 1990, after experiencing vision problems. She was pronounced legally blind shortly after her diagnosis. Her husband Len, a marriage enrichment specialist, minister, and retired Naval officer, immediately took on an active role in helping his wife manage MS. He also developed a passion for reaching out to care partners in an effort to teach people how to approach a new diagnosis with a positive spirit and enrich their relationships with their loved ones while managing the disease.

Cheryl maintains an extremely positive attitude about life, and is passionate about reaching out to others and sharing her story. As a full-time volunteer, nearly every day she takes part in at least one activity benefiting the MS community. She is often requested to serve as a motivational speaker for community organizations due to her never-ending spirit.

Call us at (800) 242-3358, option 2 for reservation information and to register.
Meet the Forest County Potawatomi Community Foundation

When the Forest County Potawatomi Community Foundation first sponsored the MS Walk several years ago, the Wisconsin Chapter was thrilled. The high-profile support helped to elevate awareness of the MS Walk throughout southeastern Wisconsin.

As the years passed and the relationship with the Forest County Potawatomi Community Foundation grew, a partnership formed in which their organization has chosen to embrace and support our mission year-round.

In 2008, the Forest County Potawatomi Community Foundation became the first-ever title sponsor of the MS Snowmobile Tour. The timing of this momentous sponsorship is providential as the Tour celebrated 25 years. The event was held at the Northern Lights Casino in Carter, Wisconsin, a facility owned and operated by the Forest County Potawatomi Tribe of Wisconsin.

In addition to the MS Snowmobile Tour, the Forest County Potawatomi Community Foundation will sponsor the Walk MS event along with the MS Luncheon in Milwaukee.

Even though MS was not designated as a primary focus of the Forest County Potawatomi Community Foundation, Director of Enterprise Fund Tom Boelter recognizes the significant impact of the disease on people throughout Wisconsin. He also believes the Wisconsin Chapter is doing tremendous work to improve the quality of life for these people. According to Boelter, his ancestors have always given back living in harmony with the community in which they live.

What started as a basic sponsorship has transformed into a powerful partnership that positively impacts those affected by MS. The National MS Society and the Forest County Potawatomi Community Foundation truly are a winning combination.

Forest County Potawatomi Community Foundation

Get Your MS Connection News Online!

Do you want to start receiving your MS Connection electronically? It's a great way to help the Chapter save money on printing and postage.

If you are interested, please email info@wisMS.org and put “Newsletter” in the subject line. Please include your first and last name.
The National MS Society believes that moving is not just something you can or can’t do, but rather is who you are. This is why we sponsor events like Walk MS - to raise funds for research, as well as comprehensive programs and services for people with MS - and move closer to a world free of MS.

When you join a Walk MS event, you become a part of the powerful movement that will end MS forever. Register today in a city near you.

Sunday, April 20, 2008
Brown County

Sunday, April 27, 2008
Cedarburg
Chippewa Valley - Eau Claire
Fond du Lac
Sheboygan
Waukesha
Wausau

Sunday, May 4, 2008
Fox Cities
La Crosse - Seven Rivers
Madison
Milwaukee
Lake Country - Oconomowoc
Racine/Kenosha

www.wisMS.org • 800.242.3358 (toll free in WI) • 262.369.4400
The Challenge Walk MS may be the greatest journey you will ever take – unlike anything you’ve experienced before. The Challenge Walk MS is being held in Door County Wisconsin. The event is a 3-day, 50-mile journey toward a world free of multiple sclerosis.

But, the Challenge Walk MS is not just about walking. It is about being part of the national movement of thousands of people that are doing something BIG to make a difference in the lives of the 400,000+ people living with the effects of MS. By joining us in the Challenge Walk MS, you do what thousands of people with MS cannot do themselves – put one foot in front of the other.

Further details about the event are available at www.wisMS.org. Please contact Valerie Dixon at valerie.dixon@wisMS.org or 800-242-3358 with any questions.
Congratulations to Toyota Trucks MS 150 Best Dam Bike Tour’s Top 100 Fundraisers!

1. Charles Scherwinski $60,900.50  
2. James Sandstrom $20,975.00  
3. Peggy Mat-Siewert $17,271.00  
4. Ken Minor $14,010.00  
5. Barbara Lenz $13,975.50  
6. Thomas Magnus $13,317.00  
7. Lenore VanSanten $12,908.00  
8. David Coyne $11,535.00  
9. Rebecca Kelley $9,643.26  
10. Gary Steven $9,614.99  
11. Michael Smurr $9,439.00  
12. Robert Engel $9,120.00  
13. Ed Michalski $8,246.00  
14. Stacey VanRens $8,165.00  
15. Harry Anderson $8,030.00  
16. Steve Soltner $8,000.00  
17. Robert Govek $7,771.75  
18. Kathleen Weinkauf $7,637.00  
19. John Scherwinski $7,600.00  
20. Paul Mattson $7,550.00  
21. Robert Braun $5,500.00  
22. David Pucely $5,450.00  
23. Bennett Berson $5,525.00  
24. Michael Smurr $5,500.00  
25. Harry Lum $5,439.33  
26. Mark Hamilton $5,290.00  
27. Jeffrey Alley $5,180.00  
28. Rick Govek $5,174.00  
29. Kenneth Klemowits $5,134.33  
30. Ronald Scherwinski $5,118.81  
31. Dawn Sullivan $5,100.00  
32. James Kaestner $5,075.00  
33. Nina Slowik $5,070.86  
34. Cynthia Cahill $5,010.00  
35. Sally Plemmons $5,002.50  
36. Greg Lenz $5,000.00  
37. Jerry Ryan $5,000.00  
38. Andy Scherwinski $5,000.00  
39. Edward Brady $4,760.00  
40. Loren Ziglin $4,492.00  
41. Jason Dorgan $4,484.27  
42. Eric Cesnik $4,433.00  
43. Harry Collis $4,415.00  
44. Jere Johnson $4,365.00  
45. William Twieg $4,365.00  
46. Dave Babel $4,290.00  
47. David Michalski $4,285.00  
48. Michael Miller $4,265.00  
49. John Miller $4,245.00  
50. Elliott Siewert $4,200.00  
51. Tom Trepczyk $4,160.00  
52. Andrew Govek $4,071.00  
53. Jon Konzen $4,000.00  
54. Janet Gruner $3,972.00  
55. John Hagen $3,895.00  
56. Scott Wittig $3,850.00  
57. Dan Erschen $3,840.00  
58. Kevin Devine $3,750.00  
59. Paul Pujauski $3,740.00  
60. William Koch $3,715.00  
61. Michael Milz $3,694.00  
62. Garry Fraboni $3,564.00  
63. Bernard Cesnik $3,470.00  
64. Keith Lawler $3,465.02  
65. Jonathan Lang $3,455.00  
66. Charles Norris $3,435.86  
67. Jesse Virlee $3,370.00  
68. Rick (Harold) Miles $3,283.00  
69. John Butzler $3,280.00  
70. Eugene Knabe $3,243.26  
71. Jonathan Engel $3,240.00  
72. Michael Smith $3,230.00  
73. Susan Rubens $3,224.33  
74. Jamie Settimi $3,155.00  
75. Richard Karls $3,140.00  
76. Emily Greenberg $3,107.00  
77. James Engel $3,105.00  
78. Dennis Christiansen $3,100.00  
79. Brandon Mackesey $3,080.25  
80. Anthony Machi $3,043.26  
81. Todd Eber $3,040.00  
82. Michael Newman $3,035.00  
83. Jennifer Conigliaro $3,004.00  
84. Joshua Coenen $3,000.00  
85. John VanSanten $3,000.00  
86. Jeff Johnson $2,971.66  
87. Jessica Shepherd $2,920.00  
88. Garry Decker $2,890.00  
89. Kevin Jorgensen $2,855.00  
90. Debbie Knoebel $2,826.00  
91. Nicole Reikowski $2,780.00  
92. Annette Goetsch $2,770.00  
93. Tim Behlmer $2,755.00  
94. Michelle Reinen $2,750.00  
95. Elizabeth $2,749.33  
96. Joseph Knoech $2,749.00  
97. Bob Verzal $2,745.00  
98. John Warriner $2,725.00  
99. Elizabeth Christiansen $2,720.00  
100. Charlotte Flanagan $2,685.00
The 2007 Toyota Trucks MS 150 Best Dam Bike Tour teams listed below each raised more than $15,000 for a world free of MS.

Congratulations to Toyota Trucks MS 150 Best Dam Bike Tour’s Top Teams!

**Grand Tier Teams - $50,000+**

- Sonic Streamers - Ken Minor, Captain
  - $124,382.75
- Chuck’s Athletic Supporters - Andy Scherwinski, Captain
  - $92,940.31
- Team Wendy - Mary Topp, Captain
  - $52,434.48
- Positive Pedalers - Harry Lum, Captain
  - $50,020.66

**Top Tier Teams - $20,000 - $49,999**

- Charlie’s MS Angels - John & Peggy Siewert, Captains
  - $47,392.73
- Park and Riders - Eric Koepp, Captain
  - $42,835.00
- ERacers - Lenore VanSanten, Captain
  - $40,325.05
- UW Health Red’s Riders - Jerry Ryan, Captain
  - $41,510.00
- Biogen Idec - Jonathan Siade-Cox, Captain
  - $39,976.00
- Waukesha Y-ders - Cyndi Cahill, Captain
  - $35,847.25
- Team Bibs - Barbara Lenz, Captain
  - $30,148.96
- Kari’s Cadets - Steve Nolter, Captain
  - $28,856.75
- SJV Connection - Jim Sandstrom, Captain
  - $26,283.00
- Patti’s Pedalers - Dennis Hilsenhoff, Captain
  - $25,068.52
- Peppy Pedalers - Dan Erschen, Captain
  - $25,153.98
- Team Legstrong - Kathleen Weinkauf, Captain
  - $22,997.00
- FMA Psychologists - Andrew Govek, Captain
  - $22,052.50
- Chain Smokers - Bob Engel, Captain
  - $20,567.00
Every year, individuals and groups throughout Wisconsin give their time and energy for a world free of MS by hosting independent fundraising events. Through their dedication, they further our mission and help move lives forward.

Julie Alonzo-Calteaux - **Performers for a Cure**
Ken Bare - **Bogey Bare Golf Tournament**
Bell Family - **Rabbit Hunt**
Kurt Benzine - **Marathon Run**
Bottle Milwaukee - **The Bottle Beerfest**
C&H - **Casual Dress Day and Gift Match**
Krista Chapman - **Fire Up for MS**
Jim Collins - **Green Bay Yacht Club 2007**
Dan Croal - **Croal Open**
Barbara Engechard - **Pastys 1st Annual Par-Tee Open**
Heidi Erdmann - **JMO Jim & Mickey Open: A Drive for MS**
Farnsworth Middle School - **Penny Wars**
Gina Felten - **Ken Fest 2007**
Roy Fine - **Fox Valley Road & Track Classic VII**
Kristin Fischer - GE Healthcare - **Employee Golf Outing**
Shaleigh Fitzpatrick - **Ynot II MS Fundraiser**
Dave Flannery and Apple Holler - **MS Apple Orchard Walk**
Paul Friesen - **MS Benefit Skeet Fun Shoot**
Brian and Mary Hopp - **Hopp Dakota Triathlon**
Mike HUDY - **Wisconsin Corvette Club**
Kappa Beta Gamma Sorority of St. Norberts - **MS Benefit Dinner**
Ron and Tony Knutson and Pam Patterson - **9 pin Tap Tournament**
Andy McCormick - **Antique & Classic Boat Show**
Kevin and Julie McCullough - **Break MS Pool Tournament**
Dawn McDermid - **The Big Fitness Event**
Carrie Melkus - **Wedding Donation**
Cynthia Miller - **Halloween Party**
Gordon Moore - **Antique & Classic Boat Show**
Packaging Corporation of America Company - **Brat Fry**
Karen Pagel - **Golf Scramble**
Pam Person - **SU-Moe Golf Scramble**
Patricia Precour - **Pat’s Par Tee**

Prince of Peace - **Pennies for MS**
Carrie Reinemann - **Carwash for MS**
Rick Romenesko - **Romy’s Nitingale**
Marie Sarnowski - **Maries Miles for MS**
Kristi Schaff and Team Wendy - **Blarney Bash**
Chad Schaffer and Team Tandi - **Bowling Tournament 9Pin Tap**
John Scherwiniski - **Car Show**
Luann Schreiber and Family - **Family Day**
Robert Schwartz - **Cranes for a Cure**
Laura Shaw - **Casino Night**
Steve Smith - **Columbus White Elephant**
Sullivan Sullivan - **Janesville Rebekah Lodge**
Mickey Thompson - **Bowling Tournament 9Pin Tap**
Melissa Turner - **Poker Run**
UWGB Civics Club - **Steps to Make a Difference**
Laura VanBoxel - **Milk Bottles for MS**
Brett Weir - **Cedar Lake Charity Ice Fishing Tournament**
Wisconsin Minnesota Association - **Silent Auction**
Carrie Zehms - **Dessert Bake off**

*This list includes independent fundraisers held 10/1/06-9/30/07 that have been confirmed by the Chapter. If you currently host an event that benefits the Society but is not listed above we encourage you to contact the Chapter.*

If you’re interested in hosting your own fundraising event, please contact the Wisconsin Chapter at 262.369.4400 or 800.242.3358 toll.
MS Camp for Kids

Children of a parent who lives with multiple sclerosis (MS) often must assume responsibilities beyond their years.

By helping us to send a child to MS Camp for Kids, you can provide that child with the opportunity to have fun and...just be a kid.

**Moving Lives Forward - One Family at a Time.**

To register a child or to donate, call us for more details today!

(262) 369-4400  
(800) 242-3358

www.wisMS.org

2007 Top 10 Independent Fundraisers (non special event)*

- Hopp Dakota Triathlon  
  $21,309.50

- Bell Family Rabbit Hunt  
  $17,488.00

- Apple Holler MS Orchard Walk  
  $10,000.00

- MS Poker Run  
  $9,104.00

- Bogey Bare Golf Tournament  
  $6,996.00

- Break MS Pool Tournament  
  $6,065.00

- Minocqua Antique & Classic Boat Show  
  $5,250.00

- Corvettes for Charity  
  $4,500.00

- Golf Scramble (Karen Pagel)  
  $4,305.00

- JMO Jim & Mickey Open: A Drive for MS  
  $4,300.00

- SU-Moe Golf Scramble  
  $4,103.00

- Columbus White Elephant  
  $2,541.25

* The top 10 independent fundraisers listed are for events not related to Walk MS, Bike MS or the MS Snowmobile Tour.
Progress Made in Repairing MS Damage

With aggressive funding from the National MS Society and many other sponsors, researchers are pursuing ways to reverse the damage done by MS to nerve fibers and the protective myelin coating that surrounds them.

Encouraging results have emerged from two recent laboratory studies.

**Mayo Clinic zeroes in on an antibody**

It may not have the most memorable name, but rHlgM22 recently made news when Dr. Moses Rodriguez and his Mayo Clinic team reported success in repairing myelin when they injected a single dose of this monoclonal antibody into mice with an MS-like disease.

The results were presented at the 132nd Annual Meeting of the American Neurological Association in October 2007. Although these findings will need to be confirmed by further animal and human studies, the results take us one step further to stimulate myelin repair in people with MS.

**Block that LINGO**

Researchers funded by Biogen Idec, Inc., which makes the MS disease-modifying drug Avonex, recently reported success in repairing myelin in mice by blocking a myelin molecule called LINGO-1. Dr. Sha Mi and colleagues wrote about their findings in the September 30, 2007, online edition of Nature Medicine.

LINGO-1 is part of a complex of molecules within myelin called the Nogo receptor complex that has been shown to inhibit the regeneration of nerve fibers. In an earlier study, published in the March, 2004, issue of Nature Neuroscience, Dr. Mi’s team reported that remyelination occurred and the health of nerve fibers improved when LINGO-1 was disabled.

In the current study, the Biogen team first induced EAE, an MS-like disease, in mice with and without LINGO-1. Both groups developed EAE symptoms, but they were significantly milder in mice without the molecule.

Studies of tissue samples showed significant myelin repair in these mice as well.

The team then administered a LINGO-1 antibody capable of blocking LINGO-1 activity to mice that already had symptoms of EAE. The treatment stabilized disease progression after two weeks. Tissue analysis showed that treatment reduced nerve fiber damage and enhanced myelin repair in the spinal cord, compared with untreated mice.

According to a recent Biogen press release, the company plans to continue researching this possible new approach to MS treatment.

**NEWS Flash**

Success!

The President signed the Defense Appropriations funding bill (H.R. 3222) on November 13, 2007, in response to the voices of more than 100,000 MS activists urging Congress to increase federal funding for MS research. MS research is now eligible for funding under the Department of Defense (DoD) for the first time ever. Get the full story at nationalMSSociety.org/advocacy.
MS films available on YouTube
View five short films by and about people living with MS shown in the first annual “Moving Forward Film Festival” sponsored by the Society. Go to youtube.com and search for “Moving Forward Film Festival.”

Proof that the MS drugs delay disability
There’s been ample proof that Avonex, Betaseron, Rebif, and Copaxone decrease both the number of active MS attacks and “silent” damage in the brain or spinal cord as seen on MRI for people with relapsing forms of MS. Now a team of Canadian researchers has published a review of clinical experience over more than 20 years, before and since DM drugs came into use. According to their estimates, these drugs also delay disability—significantly. Visit nationalmssociety.org/bulletins.

The MS Technology Collaborative survey results
People with MS may not take advantage of features that could make their computers and electronic devices easier to use. Even so, technology plays a vital and increasingly important role in their lives. These are some of the key facts that surfaced in an important survey this spring. Read the results at mymsmyway.com/survey.html.

Take a personal tech snapshot
Get a quick pic of solutions to problems, such as reading text on the screen or using a mouse. Visit mymsmyway.com and answer a few simple question on the Snapshot quiz. You’ll get customized information detailing solutions—including many that are low cost.

International MS meeting reports on new therapies
Last October the European Committee for Treatment and Research in MS (ECTRIMS) met in Prague and reported on studies in MS development that are building a better picture of the differences between progressive and relapsing forms of MS. The meeting also reported on new drugs just beginning their trip through the long process of testing. Among them are MS vaccines, monoclonal antibody treatments, blood or bone marrow transplantation, and a drug composed of a synthetic fragment of myelin protein, the material that insulates healthy nerve fibers.

To learn more about the findings, visit nationalmssociety.org/bulletins and look for Research Progress Reported at International ECTRIMS Meeting, or ask us for a copy.

In September 2008, ECTRIMS—along with its counterparts in North America (ACTRIMS) and Latin America (LACTRIMS)—will meet in Montréal for the World Congress on Treatment and Research in MS. As the organizing body for ACTRIMS, the Society is pleased to provide logistical support for this important meeting of MS researchers and clinicians.

Momentum is the new InsideMS
The Society’s national magazine is now Momentum, an 80-page quarterly. If you have MS, Momentum is a Society benefit. Others may request it with their contributions. Call us for information.

Some back issues of InsideMS (which began publication in 1983) are available at nationalmssociety.org/magazine.
Finding Legitimate Internet Jobs

An estimated 45 million Americans worked from home in 2006, up from 41 million in 2003*. For people with disabilities, telecommuting may offer a way to keep working despite mobility or fatigue issues.

The kinds of work that can be done at home include auditing, data entry, design, editing and writing, litigation coding, and medical and legal transcription, and more.

**Is telecommuting right for you?**

“Most of our calls are from people with disabilities who want to work from home,” Kim Cordingly, PhD, told MS Connection. Dr. Cordingly is a self-employment consultant at the Job Accommodation Network, (JAN), a service of the U.S. Department of Labor that provides information on job accommodations, self-employment and small business opportunities.

“Legitimate jobs exist, but it’s important to be a good consumer when looking for online work,” Dr. Cordingly advised. To help people avoid scams, the Federal Trade Commission’s “Work at Home Schemes” page (ftc.gov/bcp/menus/consumer/invest/workhome.shtm) lists popular schemes, such as coupon scams and fraudulent medical billing opportunities, and how to avoid them.

“If for any reason you feel unsure about a company or what they’re offering, feel free to investigate,” Dr. Cordingly said. First, check with the Federal Trade Commission (ftc.gov) and the Better Business Bureau (bbb.org) to see if any complaints have been filed against the company. It is also okay to ask for references—contact information for other people doing similar work for the company so you can ask them about their experience.

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**Get ready**

Teleworktools.org provides a comprehensive toolkit for potential teleworkers, including a self-assessment questionnaire, information on benefits and financial help, and an exhaustive list of links to telecommuting resources on the Web.

**Get set up**

Dr. Cordingly highlights two organizations that specialize in helping potential telecommuters find work.

CORA Works trains and mentors people with disabilities and matches them with the needs of employers.

**Go: Resources**

CORA Works
coraworks.com
Phone: 800-571-2397

Job Accommodation Network
jan.wvu.edu
Phone: 800-526-7234; TTY: 877-781-9403

National Telecommuting Institute
nticentral.org
Phone: 800-619-0111

Myths About Social Security Appeals

Fifth in a series of articles addressing SSDI by Thomas E. Bush, Esq., WI Chapter Clinical Advisory Committee member

Some people say that everyone who applies for disability benefits from the Social Security Administration (SSA) is turned down and must appeal. It’s not true. About 70% of people now receiving disability benefits never had to appeal. They were found disabled when they first applied for benefits.

In the face of these statistics, some go to the other extreme and say that appeals, therefore, are pointless. According to them, it’s best to continue to file new applications for disability benefits. But this is wrong, too. Not only can one lose potential back benefits by reapplying, but if the first application was denied, a new application is likely to be denied also.

Unfortunately, some claimants give up after being denied on the first appeal – the request for reconsideration. However, not many first appeals are approved. Only about 15% of claimants who request reconsideration are found disabled at that time, while more than 60% of claimants who request a hearing before an administrative law judge (ALJ) are found disabled. As a result, it’s necessary to appeal to request an ALJ hearing.

Many believe that SSA decisions are totally illogical; but there is a certain logic. During the initial application and reconsideration steps, decisions are made based almost exclusively on medical records. At a hearing, an ALJ will consider all factors. Multiple sclerosis (MS) cases provide a good illustration. People with MS who have obvious neurological disorders are usually found disabled upon initial application. But those whose limitations from MS are less obvious – cases involving fatigue, for example – often win their cases only after going to an ALJ hearing.

In terms of legal representation, it is a good idea to have a lawyer represent you at the ALJ hearing; however, you don’t need a lawyer to file the appeal as the denial letter will provide instructions. The best option is go to the SSA office and submit your appeal in person. Take along a copy of your denial letter and be sure to request a signed copy of your appeal paper showing that you appealed on time – within 60 days of the date you received the denial letter. You also can appeal by telephoning SSA to make arrangements for your appeal to be handled by phone and mail. Finally, you can appeal from SSA’s website, www.socialsecurity.gov.

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

JOIN THE MOVEMENT

Tahirah, diagnosed in 2004
People who include a bequest to the National MS Society in their will send a strong message: they believe in the work the Society is doing and want to help move us to a world free of MS.

A bequest is about more than supporting a great cause. What you put in your will is your legacy. It is one of the ways that people will remember you.

Estate gifts or bequests can be a donation of general support. Or they can be specific to your personal vision. For instance, a bequest might be restricted to research in a specific area, such as genetics or MS triggers. Or it can be earmarked for services, such as emergency loans, college scholarships, or educational programs.

Bequests may be a specific amount or they may represent a percentage of your total estate. “Residual” bequests can be set up to help fund the National MS Society after family and friends are provided for.

Estate planning experts suggest:
• Consider possibilities. Plan for life’s uncertainties.
• Organize. Identify all your assets and liabilities.
• Inform your potential beneficiaries. By letting us know of your plans, we will thank you with recognition in our Pillars of Society program.
• Use caution. Consult a qualified estate planning attorney. Careful planning may save your loved ones from complex probate procedures and taxes.

The next step
Society staff can give you all the information and materials you and your advisor need to develop a bequest that reflects your values and fits your estate plan. Investing your assets to reflect what you consider most important can be deeply satisfying.

Ask for our brochure, “Creating a Legacy for Tomorrow.” Call the Gift Planning Office at 1-800-923-7727, or visit nationalmssociety.org, click on “Donate” and then “Planned Giving” for more information.

The National MS Society would like to thank and welcome the latest members of the Pillars of Society—Michael and Lori Lutze of Brookfield, Wis. The Pillars of Society is the National MS Society’s recognition program that acknowledges individuals and families who have chosen to Join the Movement for a world free of MS by remembering the Society through a bequest, gift annuity or other deferred gift. To date there are more than 200 Pillars of Society members nationally and 32 members in Wisconsin.

Mike is a Risk Advisory Partner with Ernst & Young and is a long-time volunteer for the Wisconsin Chapter. Mike first learned about the MS Society through his participation in Bike MS and then board opportunities through his friendship with Bill Wood, a former board member of the Wisconsin Chapter and now retired partner of Ernst and Young. Mike has been a board member since 1991 and currently serves as Vice Chairman. Lori volunteers for a variety of organizations while beginning pursuit of a writing career and their six-year-old son Jack has already started to follow in his father’s footsteps by volunteering the last few years for Bike MS at Ernst and Young’s rest stop as an avid Gatorade mixer.

If you have any questions or have included the National MS Society in your estate plans, you can become a Pillars of Society member by contacting Jedd Lapid at 262-369-4431 or by email at jedd.lapid@wisms.org.
Endowed Scholarships

Many families struggle to cope with the financial impact of MS, making it difficult to assist their children in paying for a college education.

We believe that multiple sclerosis should not stand in the way of an education. The MS Scholarship program continues to grow and make a positive impact by providing the opportunity for students affected by MS to attend an accredited college or university. With the increased needs of Wisconsin families, the Society invites you to consider naming an endowed scholarship with a minimum gift of $25,000. Currently the endowment stands at $75,000 and continues to grow.

Gifts can be made annually and in honor or in memory of friends, family and loved ones and will be awarded in perpetuity.

For more information or questions about establishing an endowed scholarship please contact Jedd Lapid at jedd.lapid@wisms.org or at 262-369-4431.
Save the Date

MS Luncheon

July 22, 2008
MS Luncheon in Green Bay
Special Guest Sara White

July 23, 2008
MS Luncheon in Milwaukee
Special Guest Rain Pryor

July 25, 2008
MS Luncheon in Madison
Special Guest Rain Pryor

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