



ALS Association
Fighting Lou Gehrig's Disease

**Greater New York
Chapter**

The ALS Association Greater New York Chapter

June 2012

Monthly Update

Serving New York City, Long Island, Westchester County, Hudson Valley, and Northern & Central New Jersey

42 Broadway, Suite 1724 • New York, NY 10004 • (212) 619-1400 • www.als-nj.org

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June Support Groups

NASSAU COUNTY, NY

Sunday, June 3rd - 2 pm to 4 pm
North Shore LIJ - Plainview Hospital
888 Old Country Road, Plainview - Downstairs
Topic: Open Discussion
Contact: Theresa Imperato, RN, (516) 946-5467 and
Jody Wiesel, PhD (917) 699-9751

SUFFOLK COUNTY, NY

Tuesday, June 5th - 6 pm to 8 pm
Stony Brook University, Dept. of Neurology
179 North Belle Meade Rd, E. Setauket
Topic: Open Discussion
Contact: Theresa Imperato, RN, (516) 946-5467

HUDSON VALLEY, NY

Tuesday, June 5th - 6:30 pm to 8:30 pm
Vassar Brothers Medical Mall
Ambulatory Surgery Center - Bldg C - 3rd Floor
200 Westage Business Center, Fishkill, NY
Topic: Open Discussion
Massage Therapist Max Cohn will be donating massages.
Contact: Helen Mayer, RN, (845) 520-0952

SADDLE BROOK / NORTHERN NJ

Thursday, June 7th - 7 pm to 8:30 pm
Kessler Institute for Rehabilitation
300 Market St., Saddle Brook, NJ
Topic: Open Discussion
Contact: Debbie Schlossberg, LMSW (732) 710-8832

NEW BRUNSWICK / CENTRAL NJ

Saturday, June 16th - 1 pm to 3 pm
Robert Wood Johnson University Hospital
Medical Education Building, Rm. 108A
180 Somerset Street, follow signs to meeting
Guest Speaker: Anne Zaun, Esq. - Estate Planning
Contact: Debbie Schlossberg, LMSW and
Mary Ann Mertz, RN, (732) 710-8832

MANHATTAN, NY

Tuesday, June 19th - 6 pm to 8 pm
Phillips Ambulatory Care Center (Beth Israel)
10 Union Square East (b/w 14th & 15th streets)
Neurology Dept- 5th Floor Conference Room
Topic: Open Discussion
Contact: Jody Wiesel, PhD, (917) 699-9751

TELEPHONE SUPPORT GROUPS

Caregivers: Fridays - 11 am to 12 pm
Patients: Fridays - 3 pm to 4 pm
Contact: Sue Zimmerman at (212) 720-3050
Note: from June through Sept., telephone support groups are bi-weekly. This month's meetings occur on June 8th & 22nd.

Father's Day Remembrance

On Sunday, June 17th we celebrate Father's Day. For many families touched by ALS, this may be an especially emotional day as we care for our fathers and grandfathers currently battling the disease or honor the memory of cherished loved ones we have lost to ALS. The ALS Association Greater New York Chapter wishes to honor and remember those Fathers and Grandfathers impacted by Lou Gehrig's Disease in a number of ways.

First, we hope you will share with us a tribute to your Father or Grandfather. From Thursday, June 14th through Monday, June 18th, please post a picture of your loved one with a short story on their lives or a few words about how much they mean to you. Together, this can become a vibrant, living history of the many faces of ALS. If you're not already a fan of our Chapter Facebook page, please visit www.facebook.com/ALSofGNY.

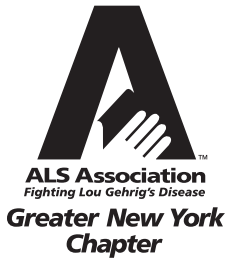
Second, we are on the cutting edge of scientific research. There is so much hope currently out there in ALS research, but further steps are needed for that vital breakthrough. Please visit www.als-nj.org and make a donation in honor or memory of your father or grandfather. Your support of ALS research efforts will help in the fight against ALS, so that one day children and grandchildren can celebrate Father's Day in a world without ALS.

Chapter Rings Closing Bell at NYSE



On Wednesday, May 23rd the Board and staff of the Greater New York Chapter had a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity. In recognition of ALS Awareness Month, the New York Stock Exchange Euronext gave us the immense honor of ringing the Closing Bell on the trading room floor.

As we gavelled the stock market to a close, we were able to draw attention from the Wall Street community and beyond to ALS and the need for a cure. Please watch the video on our website. Special thanks to the NYSE organization for this privilege.



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The 2012 Walk to Defeat ALS Season... "And we're off!"

The Kentucky Derby wasn't the only exciting event taking place on the first Saturday in May! On May 5th a record number of PALS, family & friends participated in the 5th Annual New York City Walk to Defeat ALS. A gathering of nearly 2,000 supporters wound their way up Manhattan's Hudson River waterfront, raising much-needed awareness and funds. For the first time ever, partners from around the globe were able to view the Walk through the Chapter's live video stream! Viewers from as far as Italy and Finland got to witness the excitement and see their loved ones cross the finish line to the backdrop of Manhattan's majestic skyline! If you missed the NYC Walk, view the live stream on our website at <http://als-ny.org/videos/NYC-ALS-Walk.html>.

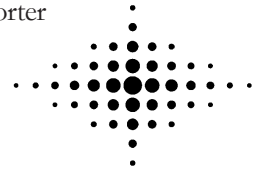


The start line at the 2012 New York City Walk to Defeat ALS.

Up next was the Long Branch Walk on May 20th - and what a spectacular day for it! The Boardwalk at Pier Village provided the perfect beach-side setting for this Walk at the Jersey Shore! Approximately 1,500 supporters attended and celebrated well into the afternoon with plenty of great music, food and fun for everyone.

There will also be two walks in the month of June, with Saddle Brook, NJ on the 3rd, followed by Westchester's 10th Annual Walk to Defeat ALS on Sunday, June 10th in Yonkers, NY. Sign up today at www.alswalks.org.

Diamond Foods: 2012 Presenting Sponsor of The Walk Program - The Chapter is excited to announce that Long Branch Walk Chair and Diamond Foods National Account Manager, Ellen Compesi has helped bring longtime supporter Diamond Foods onboard as Presenting Sponsor of the 2012 Walks to Defeat ALS. We are so grateful for Diamond Foods' commitment to the fight against ALS. Ellen and her family walk with 'The Joe Pettinato Team' in memory of Ellen's father.



Diamond

Advocacy Day Success!

Just last month over 30 phenomenal ALS advocates from the Greater New York Chapter descended on Capitol Hill for 2012 National ALS Advocacy Day. With families from every region of our Chapter, we met with 23 Members of Congress and 4 U.S. Senators to get more funding for ALS research, to maintain the National ALS Registry, and to garner co-sponsors for the recently introduced MODERN Cures Act, which will positively impact research and propel it forward.

Within just two days following Advocacy Day, we learned that our efforts were fruitful, as Congress appears headed to increase funding for ALS research within the Department of Defense (note: final Congressional approval is still pending at time of publication). Special kudos to our long-time advocates, as well as to the first-time advocates, and especially the four PALS who attended.

Advocacy Day is but one day a year, however there is something that can be done every day to raise awareness for ALS and inform our representatives in federal, state, and local government about this disease. Sign up as an advocate today and get information year-round on the latest in public policy and ways you can help. Call Daryl Cochrane at (212) 720-3052 or email: dcochrane@als-ny.org.