

Share Your Life
Share Your Decision

Life.....Pass It On!

Transplants Save Lives, Inc.

Special points of interest:

- Awareness Bracelets are in Stock! We have spread the word with over 1,000 Bracelets sold!
- Magnetic Bumper Stickers are in Stock! We have spread the word with over 1,000 sold!
- Do You Write Using a TSL Pen?
- Awareness Key Chains are in!

March, 2008

TSL Meeting
Thursday, March 27, 2008
GOOD SAMARITAN HOSPITAL

Get Ready for
TSL's 14th Annual Walk-A-Thon!
7:00 PM Social Time
7:30 PM Meeting Starts
MEETING IS IN THE AUDITORIUM
GO DOWN THE HALL TOWARDS THE
BOARDROOM, IT WILL BE ON YOUR LEFT

WALK-A-THON FLYERS WILL BE
AVAILABLE FOR PICK-UP

All Are Invited See You There!



TSL'S 14TH ANNUAL WALK-A-THON
SUNDAY, MAY 4, 2008
9:30 AM SIGN IN 10:30 AM WALK
ROCKLAND LAKE STATE PARK
NORTH ENTRANCE, RTE.9W & CONGERS RD.

Inside this issue:

TSL's Schedule of Events	2
Transplant Anniversaries	3
Members' Corner	4
Membership Dues Notice	5
In the News	7-8
WALK-A-THON FLYER	9

TSL'S SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

Mark Your Calendars!

MARCH 27, 2008	GOOD SAMARITAN HOSPITAL MONTHLY MEETING
MAY 4, 2008	14TH ANNUAL WALK-A-THON
JUNE, 2008	ANNUAL TSL DINNER MEETING
JULY, AUGUST, 2008	BREAK FOR THE SUMMER
SEPTEMBER 17, 2008	2ND ANNUAL GOLF OUTING RIVERVALE COUNTRY CLUB

Reserve these Dates on your Calendars!

Contact a Board Member with Topic/Speaker Recommendations

TRANSPLANTS SAVE LIVES, INC.

We are a non-profit organization for transplant recipients and their families, donor families, and people waiting for transplants and their families. We meet on a monthly basis at Good Samaritan Hospital in Suffern, NY. These meetings are a combination of support and keeping our members up-to-date on all issues of transplantation. Speakers represent all facets of organ donation and transplantation and are foremost in their field. We also enjoy social events together throughout the year.

We Look Forward to Seeing YOU at our Meetings!

Transplants Save Lives, Inc. Board of Directors

Barbara Blumenthal, spouse	845-352-5099	Nicholas Cinalli, liver	845-353-3062
Patricia Malone, kidney	845-354-9737	Rick Pascarella	845-215-5137
Farah Negrin	845-627-2240	Sue Negrin, heart	845-627-2240
Eileen Albus	917-941-4417		

WHO MAKES UP TRANSPLANTS SAVE LIVES, INC.?**WHAT TSL'S PAID MEMBERSHIP LOOKS LIKE TO DATE:**

KIDNEY TRANSPLANT RECIPIENTS	LIVER TRANSPLANT RECIPIENTS
HEART TRANSPLANT RECIPIENTS	DOUBLE LUNG TRANSPLANT RECIPIENT
CORNEA TRANSPLANT RECIPIENTS	KIDNEY DONORS
DONOR FAMILIES	FAMILIES OF TRANSPLANT RECIPIENTS
SUPPORTERS OF ORGAN AND TISSUE TRANSPLANTATION	

INDIVIDUAL MEMBERSHIPS

FAMILY MEMBERSHIPS

WHAT WE DO DOES MAKE A DIFFERENCE

HAVE YOU SENT IN YOUR DUES?

What We Do, Does Make A Difference

TRANSPLANT ANNIVERSARIES

Jasmine Brown, kidney, 1/2003, from husband, Barry

Joan Harris, liver, 1/1996

Steven Klein, kidney, 1/1996

James Pitt, kidney, 1/2003

Martin Silberman, kidney, 1/2004

Al Zeilberger, double cornea, 1/2000

Jack Anderson, liver, 2/1990

Thomas Dempsey, liver, 2/1996

Jennifer Horn, kidney, 2/1994, from sister, Lisa Held

Joseph Morghese, heart, 2/1997

Jerry Platzman, kidney, 2/2002, from wife, Sandy

Evelyn Rios, kidney, 2/2004

Peter Sonne, kidney, 2/1995, from father Christian

Frank Amelio, kidney, 3/2006, from daughter

Vittoria Colella, kidney, 3/2001

Jim Kingsland, kidney, 3/2005

Joseph Leeb, liver, 3/1994

John McDonald, liver, 3/2002

Love to see those transplant anniversaries!
Please call Sue @627-2240 if we missed yours.

The 14th Annual Walk-A-Thon is coming.....
Sunday, May 4th, 9:30 am Sign Up 10:30 am Walk
Look for us on CABLEVISION!

Members' Corner

TSL extends sincere condolences to board member, **Rick Pascarella**, on the loss of his loving wife, **Susan**, and to the family of **Andrew Pinto**, 10 year heart transplant recipient, both of whom passed away this past January.

Thank you **Inge Beckenbach**, heart transplant recipient, and **Gisela Schulze**, liver transplant recipient, for volunteering at a blood drive organized by the family of 5 year old organ donor, Jacqueline Ismali, who lost her life due to a brain aneurism.

On Thursday May 15th, the Latino Organization for Liver Awareness will host its Annual NYC Hepatitis C Walk. For more info, call LOLA at **718 892-8697**, or visit their website at www.lola-national.org.

On Saturday, April 5th, TRIO Manhattan will offer its 14th Annual Ecumenical Service **Remember and Rejoice**, from 2 pm—3:30 pm at St. Patrick's Cathedral. The general public is invited to remember donors and their families and to rejoice with recipients. No tickets are necessary. Claudia Grammatico's song will be sung at this event (see below for Claudia Grammatico).

Thank you to **Sue Negrin**, heart transplant recipient, for speaking to congregants at Temple Beth Torah in honor of National Donor Sabbath.

Thank you to **Jack Gilroy**, heart transplant recipient, and **Nick Cinalli**, liver transplant recipient, for starring in TSL's public service announcement for the Walk-A-Thon, airing on Cablevision.

TSL welcomes Donor Mom, **Claudia Grammatico**, mother of Paul, who, in 1999, at 26 was killed along with his best friend, by a drunk driver. Claudia is tremendously active in promoting organ and tissue donation. She has written a song, *The Gift of Life and Love*, and has had it produced on a CD, dedicated to all Donors and Recipients, -where it is performed many different ways, some of which by performer Delisco, who won the Entertainer E TV program and has his own show in Las Vegas. She is the only Donor Mom that is part of a Documentary about grief which tells the story of 12 families throughout the U.S. who transcend their sorrow by doing something creative in honor of their child. Log onto www.spacebetweenbreaths.com and click on Grammatico, where there are 12 photos of Paul used in this film. In Syosset, NY, a building is named Grammatico Hall, after Paul, that houses abused and neglected children. Claudia started a Parental Bereavement Support Group, sponsored by St. Anthony Community Hospital, which meets on the 4th Monday of every month in Warwick, NY. Claudia and her husband moved to Warwick, from Long Island, to be near their daughter 3 years ago. The Support Group is open to anyone who has lost a child to any cause and at any age, including miscarriage. There is no religious affiliation required and there are no membership dues or fees. Both men and women attend, with or without their spouse. The gatherings are informal and although everyone has an opportunity to be heard, no one is required to speak or discuss the details of a child's death. All conversations are confidential.

The Walk-A-Thon is Coming... MAY 4TH...
 ROCKLAND LAKE STATE PARK

NOTICE OF TSL MEMBERSHIP DUES

No increase has been taken in the membership dues!

A family membership is \$25

A single membership is \$15

Fill out the form below and send it back with your check to:

TSL P O Box 516 Nanuet, NY 10954

This notice is in lieu of receiving a separate membership dues notice to save on postage.

Name: _____

Address: _____

Telephone: _____

E-Mail Address: _____

Transplant/Hospital/

Anniversary Date: _____

Occupation: _____

I would like to be involved with:	Membership	Website
Monthly Speakers	Special Projects	Publicity
Speaking Engagements	Board of Directors	Monthly Newsletter
NYODN	Greater NY area Coalition on Donation	

Be An Advocate for Organ and Tissue Donation

Join the TSL Family!

They say it takes a community to help raise a child — it takes a member of TSL to help raise the awareness in our community!

WHAT WE DO, DOES MAKE A DIFFERENCE!

EVERYDAY LISTEN TO WFAN 660AM RADIO 5 AM AND 4 PM AND

WATCH THE YES TV CHANNEL AT 4 PM TO HEAR TSL'S

PUBLIC SERVICE ANNOUNCEMENT FOR TSL'S 14TH ANNUAL WALK-A-THON!!

MAY 4, 2008 ROCKLAND LAKE STATE PARK

From **Doris McDermott**, mother of Tom Dempsey, liver transplant recipient: Feb 1, 1996 was the date Bruce Baron passed away and his family agreed to donate his liver. Feb 2, 1996 was the date Tom received his 2nd chance at life. Tom wrote the following poem to the Barons to thank them for his life.

To The Barons:

Who could imagine such fullness in Life....
Such wonderful kids, such a beautiful wife?
Who would have thought things would work out this way-
How happy I'd be, how healthy I'd stay?

It's hard to believe that this life I am living
Comes from One Family's great act of unselfish Giving.
Such a terrible Loss You All suffered that day
Yet You All looked to save someone else in this way.

My heart's sometimes heavy—I am often dismayed
At the unthinkable tragedy that the six of you stayed.
There are times that along with this sadness comes guilt
That a Strong Tower was felled before *my* home was built.

But just then that I think of that person...that Giver—
And the guilt in the pie is reduced to a sliver.
I know that the Gift he would want to deliver
Is far more than flesh that he gave in his liver.

I feel, so very proudly, that I carry in me
Sure, that literal part, but, too, figuratively—
Some part of his Spirit, inside me let loose—
I Than You Sincerely for Sharing Your Bruce!

Love,
Tom

LIFE: LOVE IT, LIVE IT, GIVE IT!

MEDICINE ORGAN DONATIONS EXTEND LIVES A decade he almost lost. By Jane Lerner. THE JOURNAL NEWS. January 26, 2008.

The guest of honor at a party tonight will be a 5 ounce bean-shaped organ that normally spends its time tucked deep inside the body regulating the balance of fluids. More than 85 guests will get together in an Italian restaurant to celebrate the work of a kidney that spent 47 years inside the body of Eileen Traietta, a Long Island resident, before being transplanted into the body of her cousin's husband, Steven Klein of New City. The transplant took place 10 years ago, and everyone involved said it was an event that changed their lives. "Ten years seemed like a nice number," said Klein. "It's an anniversary to celebrate." Klein, 65, had little to celebrate a decade ago as his long struggle with polycystic kidney disease, a genetic disorder characterized by the growth of numerous cysts in the kidneys, got worse. He had started dialysis and was unable to work. His wife, Diane, told family members of his plight. Several people volunteered to get tested to see if they could donate. "As soon as I heard how sick Steve was, I said, 'I have two kidneys-you can have one of mine,'" Traietta recalled. "I didn't even really think about it." Even though Traietta and Klein are not blood relatives, they did have the same blood type and doctors determined that her kidney would work well in his body.

More and more people are living decades or longer with transplanted organs, advocates said. Valley Cottage resident Nick Cinalli celebrated 12 years with his new liver in October. Cinalli is the president of Transplants Save Lives, a support and advocacy group that meets regularly at Good Samaritan Hospital in Suffern. Many of the group's members are living healthy lives years after their surgery, he said. One member of the group just marked the 20th anniversary of his liver transplant, Cinalli said. "That's the miracle of organ donation," he said. "All these years later and we're still going strong."

Despite the success of organ donation, there is still a severe shortage of organs. There were fewer than 24,000 organ transplants nationwide between January and October 2007, according to the United Network for Organ Sharing, a nationwide organization that administers procurement and transplantation.

As of this month, there were nearly 100,000 people nationwide on waiting lists for new organs, according to the group. The Kleins and Traietta never miss an opportunity to educate others about the importance of organ donation. Even though she saved Steven Klein's life, Traietta doesn't feel she deserves any special thanks or praise from the couple or anyone else. "We're all given the opportunity in our lives to do the right thing," she said. "Well, I did the right thing."

U.S. WAITING LIST CANDIDATES as per UNOS 3/8/2008

ALL	97,613
Kidney	74,638
Liver	16,356
Pancreas	1,634
Kidney/ Pancreas	2,270
Heart	2,634
Lung	2,156
Heart/Lung	104
Intestine	223

COME CELEBRATE LIFE! ORGAN & TISSUE TRANSPLANTATION WORKS!

SUNDAY, MAY 4TH , ROCKLAND LAKE STATE PARK, 9:30 AM SIGN IN

TSL'S 14TH ANNUAL WALK-A-THON

NORTH ENTRANCE, RTE 9W AND CONGERS ROAD. FREE! FREE! FREE!

FREE GIFT BAGS! FREE CAPS! FREE REFRESHMENTS!

LISTEN TO WFAN 660 AM AT 5 AM AND 4 PM TO HEAR OUR PSA NOW UNTIL THE WALK! WATCH YES TV AT 4 PM TO HEAR OUR SPOT!!

Team Creates Rat Heart Using Cells of Baby Rats. Step Toward Goal of Replacement Organs. By Lawrence K. Altman. THE NEW YORK TIMES. January 14, 2008.

Medicine's dream of growing new human hearts and other organs to repair or replace damaged ones received a significant boost Sunday when University of Minnesota researchers reported success in creating a beating rat heart in a laboratory. Experts not involved in the Minnesota work called it "a landmark achievement" and "a stunning" advance. But they and the Minnesota researchers cautioned that the dream, if it is ever realized, was still at least 10 years away.

Why It's Hard To Give Away A Kidney. Most Hospitals Avoid Donors Who Want to Help Strangers, Wary of Motives and Fearing that the Neediest Aren't Served. By Laura Meckler. THE WALL STREET JOURNAL. December 26, 2007.

Each year, hundreds of people decide they want to donate a kidney, not because someone they know needs a transplant but because they want to help and don't care who benefits. But the desire to give can be hard to fulfill because many hospitals won't accept altruistic donors, and there are few resources to help donors navigate their options. The hospitals' reluctance grows from concerns that these potential donors may be psychologically unstable, likely to change their minds and, perhaps, secretly paid for their kidneys. Given the risks of the surgery, which are small but real, some argue that it makes little sense for a stranger to donate a kidney. Advocates of altruistic donation look at the UNOS transplant list where nearly 75,000 people are waiting for a kidney and argue that the nation needs every willing kidney it can get. There are no national rules governing who receives altruistically donated kidneys. Most hospitals that accept such donors say that they simply give the kidney to the first person on the waiting list at their own center, without looking to see if there is someone who is a better match or has been waiting longer at a neighboring hospital. The United Network for Organ Sharing, which sets rules for the distribution of deceased-donor kidneys, has talked about setting rules for distribution of anonymously donated living-donor kidneys but has yet to do so.

The High Price of Keeping Dad Alive. Mark Foster Already Had A Rocky History With His Father. Could he give him part of his liver? By Laura Meckler. THE WALL STREET JOURNAL. 1/20/2007.

In a stark office at Mt. Sinai Medical Center last summer, Mark Foster sat on a leather couch alongside his parents, scared into silence. The question he faced: should he donate half his liver to save his father's life? Mark's father was uneasy about the plan. His mother opposed it, angry her husband had exacerbated his illness by drinking. Liver donations made up more than 300 of the 7000 living donors in 2005, with a close relative the typical beneficiary. Most of the rest are kidney donations. If all goes well, the two pieces of the divided liver each grow large enough to do the work of a complete organ. Yet more than a third of liver procedures have complications. Since the operation was first performed in the 1980s, more than a dozen donors are known to have died world-wide, including three in the U.S. The decision to surrender a piece of a liver can be an affirmation of love and selflessness. As Mark Foster and his parents discovered, it also can be an agonizing choice for the donor and recipient, one that forces families to confront tensions they might have preferred remain dormant.

Turning the Grief-Stricken Toward Organ Donation. By Richard Perez-Pena. THE NEW YORK TIMES. January 16, 2007.

There was barely a mark on her 9-year-old daughter's head, and when doctors told Surangni Gunaratne that the girl she adored was brain dead, she responded with fury. But over the next few days, the people at St. Vincent's Hospital Staten Island helped Mrs. Gunaratne accept that Tiffany was gone. Ms. Atkinson was an especially persistent presence. She works for NY Organ Donor Network, not the hospital, and her mission during that week was to persuade Mrs. Gunaratne and her husband to donate their daughter's organs. Five days after Tiffany was hit by a car outside her family's house, her liver and kidneys were transplanted, prolonging the lives of three strangers, one of them just 7 years old. Such tales have become increasingly common as organ donation across downstate NY has risen sharply, to 319 donors last year from 199 in 2001. According to the Organ Donor Network, the main reason for that success is people like Ms. Atkinson. One of 58 regional organizations designated by the federal government to find organs, the NY network traditionally lagged well behind other parts of the country. There were some years when fewer than 40% of potential dead donors' families in the region gave consent, compared with 50% or more nationally.

But last year, the NY Network reached a 56% consent rate, its highest ever, closing the gap with the rest of the country as the national rate rose to near 60%. Most organs go to people in the regions where they are donated. So the shortage of donors in NY has meant that people in the region wait longer to receive transplants and are more likely to die while waiting than are people in most other parts of the country. Administrators at some hospitals in NY concede that they once paid too little attention to organ donation. St. Vincent's in Staten Island did not put anyone in charge of the field until about a year ago. The hospital's consent rate has risen to 80% from 13%. NY Organ Donor Network worked more closely with hospitals than it used to and increased the number of volunteers who go to community groups promoting organ donation. But the most important change has been the family services coordinators, like Ms. Atkinson. Some of the family coordinators' relatives have given or received organs. Some are chosen in part to reflect the ethnic communities they will work in. All receive training.

Transplants Save Lives, Inc.

P. O. Box 516
Nanuet, New York 10954

Phone: 845-627-2240
Fax: 845-627-7804
E-mail: newheart93@aol.com

*What We Do Does Make
A Difference*



SM

**I support
organ and
tissue
donation.**