



971-C S. Kenmore Drive
Evansville, IN 47714
Phone: 812-423-5943 Toll-Free: 1-866-514-4312
www.tristatems.org
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February 2017 Newsletter

Offering support, care, and hope...right here at home!

Indiana Support Group Meeting Dates

Evansville, IN support group will meet Saturday, February 11th, at TSMMSA office, at 10 am. Cindy Goodwin will lead a discussion of the book “Radical Remission: Surviving Cancer Against All Odds” by Dr. Kelly Turner. If you would like to, you may purchase a printed or audio version of the book to read prior to our February meeting. The book is available at Walmart, Barnes & Noble, Google Play, etc. You may also contact Nita Ruxer at (812) 479-3544 for an mp3 CD copy. Although the book focuses on cancer, it covers treatment and prevention advice that can be applied to all diseases and health conditions. In addition, the book covers many aspects of healthy living and wellness that apply to everyone.

Contacts: Nita Ruxer / 812-479-3544 or Sharon Omer / 270-333-4701.

Tell City, IN support group will **NOT** meet in February!

Contacts: Terri Hasty / 812-649-4013 or Gayle Taylor / 812-719-2417.

Washington, IN support group will **NOT** meet in February!

Contacts: Fran Neal / 812-259-1565 or TSMMSA office 1-866-514-4312.

Kentucky Support Group Meeting Dates

Henderson, KY support group will **NOT** meet in January or February!

Contacts: Meg Burnley / 270-826-9507 or Debbie Whittington / 270-827-8298.

Owensboro, KY support group will meet. **NEW DAY AND TIME:** Saturday, February 11th, at 11:00 a.m. at HealthPark - Owensboro Health, 1006 Ford Ave, Owensboro, KY. Join us for an open discussion and refreshments.

Contact: Susan Reynolds / 812-228-6100.

Illinois Support Group Meeting Dates

Fairfield, IL support group will meet Saturday, February 4th, at 11:00 a.m. at Fairfield Memorial Hospital in the Board Room of Horizon Clinic. Join us for an open discussion.

Contacts: Kathie Hill / 618-847-8452 or TSMMSA / 1-866-514-4312.

*The Mission of the Tri-State Multiple Sclerosis Association
is to enhance the quality of life for individuals living with multiple sclerosis and their
families in Southern Indiana, Southern Illinois, and Western Kentucky.*

Shared Solutions: 1-800-887-8100  www.copaxone.com/shared-solutions

Thank you to Teva Neurosciences for sponsoring our monthly newsletter



Calendar of Events



Entire Month of February, “Test Drive For a Cause” D-Patrick Ford

Location: D-Patrick Ford, 1100 E Walnut St, Evansville, IN

During the entire month of February, for every person who takes a test drive, D-Patrick Ford will donate \$10 to TSMSA. In total, we could raise \$2,500. Please ask your friends and family to test drive for TSMSA during this exciting fundraiser!



February 9, Thursday, Biogen Idec (Tecfidera) Educational Dinner Program

Speaker: Dr. Kristi Nord, Neurologist, Memorial Hospital, Jasper, IN

Time: 6:00 p.m.

Location: Biaggi’s Ristorante Italiano, 6401 E Lloyd Exp, Evansville, IN

RSVP: You and 1 (one) guest: 1-866-955-9999



February 16, Thursday, Monthly Newsletter Stuffing

Time: 11:30 a.m.

Location: TSMSA Office – Come help, while you make new friends!



February 23, Thursday, Mallinckrodt (Acthar) Educational Dinner Program

Speaker: Dr. Kristi Nord, Neurologist, Memorial Hospital, Jasper, IN

Time: 6:00 p.m.

Location: Moonlite Bar-B-Q, Owensboro, KY

RSVP: You and 1 (one) guest: 812-423-5943 or 1-866-514-4312

Upcoming March Events



Tuesday, March 7, Acorda (Ampyra) Educational Lunch Program

Speaker: Dr. Lori Guyton, Neurologist, Neurology of Southern Illinois

Time: 12:00 p.m. (noon)

Location: Moonlite Bar-B-Q, Owensboro, KY

RSVP: You and 1 (one) guest: 812-423-5943 or 1-866-514-4312



Tuesday, March 7, Acorda (Ampyra) Educational Dinner Program

Speaker: Dr. Lori Guyton, Neurologist, Neurology of Southern Illinois

Time: 6:00 p.m.

Location: Biaggi’s Ristorante Italiano, 6401 E Lloyd Exp, Evansville, IN

RSVP: You and 1 (one) guest: 812-423-5943 or 1-866-514-4312



Thursday, March 16, Biogen Idec (Tysabri) Educational Dinner Program

Speaker: Dr. Kristi Nord, Neurologist, Memorial Hospital, Jasper, IN

Time: 6:00 p.m.

Location: Schnitzelbank Restaurant, 393 Third Ave, Jasper, IN

RSVP: You and 1 (one) guest: 1-866-955-9999



Saturday, March 18, All About ME Day!!

Time: Registration begins at 9:30 a.m.

Location: Holiday Inn, Hwy 41, Evansville, IN

RSVP: 812-423-5943 or 866-514-4312 by March 15th.

(See details in this newsletter.)



thank you!



A special *thank you* to CEO and President Ron Romain and United Companies for your very generous donation of \$14,500 to TSMSA. We are truly blessed by your kindness and dedication to our organization. We appreciate your continued support and generosity.



In Memory of.....

This is a wonderful way to acknowledge those individuals in our lives that have made a difference. Please include a note of who the donation is '*In Memory of*' or '*In Honor of*'.



In Honor of.....

In Honor of Tri-State MS Association

- | | | |
|-----------------------|------------------------|-------------------------|
| Dr. Rick Yeager | Michael Clauson | Yager Materials |
| Mary Rueger | Denise Love Orrick | Mr. Charles Leich |
| Nancy Arapios | Kanesta Downs | West Side Nut Club |
| Mr. & Mrs. James Long | Mr. & Mrs. Roger White | Mr. & Mrs. Jack Kieffer |
| Open Door UU Church | Complete Mobile Wash | Mr. & Mrs. Leo Sorensen |

In Memory of Beverly Higgins

- Mr. & Mrs. Philip Hipsher
- Mr. & Mrs. Jerry Stoneberger
- Mr. & Mrs. Rick Andrews
- Mr. & Mrs. Bruce Stickers
- Dist. 348 Transportation
- Mr. & Mrs. David Mattox
- Mr. & Mrs. Leroy Biehl
- Kelly Crowder
- Phillip & Robert Trapp
- Joni Campbell
- Jo Loeffler
- Tama Grounds

In Memory of Joni Gentry

- Bruce Adler

In Memory of Tom Denman

- Mrs. Wynn Denman & family

In Memory of Von Sloan

- Vonda Templeton

In Memory of Jeffrey Day

- Judith Harp
- Geri Gunn
- Diana Miller

In Honor of Diana Sanner

- Mr. & Mrs. Robert Kassenbrock

In Honor of Brenda Floyd

- Laura Weibush

In Honor of Jeff Elpers

- Mr. & Mrs. Larry Elpers

In Memory of Sparky

- Lesly Snurpus



HAPPY BIRTHDAY TO YOU!!

**Theresa Ladd
Bruce Houp**

**Nita Ruxer
Terry Shanks**

**Diana Helfrich
JaVan Cook**

If you would like to have your birthday included in our newsletter, please send a note that includes your name, your date of birth, and your signed permission for us to print it in our newsletter.

Ocrevus (ocrelizumab) for Relapsing MS and Primary Progressive MS

Susan Reynolds RN, MSCN

In our February 2016 newsletter, I wrote an article about ocrelizumab for Relapsing MS and Primary Progressive MS. Ocrevus, or ocrelizumab, is the first investigational medicine to reduce disability progression in people with relapsing MS and people with primary progressive MS. It was submitted to the FDA for approval in early 2016.

In February 2016, ocrelizumab was granted “Breakthrough Therapy designation” by the US Food and Drug Administration. The designation meant that once Genentech filed for approval of ocrelizumab to treat Primary Progressive MS, the review process could be expedited.

Breakthrough Therapy designation can expedite the development and review of therapies intended to treat a serious condition when clinical evidence indicates that the treatment may demonstrate substantial improvement over available therapy. The designation was granted to ocrelizumab based on phase III trial results presented at the European Committee for Treatment and Research in MS in 2015. Compared to placebo, ocrelizumab significantly reduced the risk of progression of clinical disability by 24% in 732 people with Primary Progressive MS.

December FDA Hearing for Ocrevus (ocrelizumab) delayed. Approval of ocrelizumab has been delayed by the U.S. FDA. The December 2016 FDA approval hearing has now been pushed to late March 2017. The extension is not related to the safety or efficacy of Ocrevus (ocrelizumab).

On December 20, Genentech, the drug’s manufacturer, issued the following statement about the delay:

“Genentech, a member of the Roche Group, today announced that the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) has extended the Prescription Drug User Fee Act (PDUFA) date for its review of the Biologics License Application (BLA) of Ocrevus (ocrelizumab) to March 28, 2017. The extension is the result of the submission of additional data by Genentech regarding the commercial manufacturing process of Ocrevus, which required additional time for FDA review. The extension is not related to the efficacy or safety of Ocrevus.”

“We strongly believe in the potential of Ocrevus as a new therapeutic option for both people with relapsing forms of multiple sclerosis (RMS) and Primary Progressive Multiple Sclerosis (PPMS),” said Sandra Horning, M.D., Chief Medical Officer and Head of Global Product Development for the Roche Group. “We are working closely with the FDA during their review and committed to bringing this innovative medicine to the over 400,000 people with MS in the US living with this disabling disease as quickly as possible.”

To further Genentech’s support for this disease-modifying therapy, the Phase III clinical trials’ results from the OPERA and ORATORIO studies were published in this month’s edition of the New England Journal of Medicine:

“Ocrevus is the first and only investigational medicine to significantly reduce the progression of physical disability in Primary Progressive MS in a large Phase III study,” said Xavier Montalban, MD, PhD, chair of the Scientific Steering Committee of the ORATORIO study and Professor of Neurology and Neuroimmunology at Vall d’Hebron University Hospital, Research Institute and Cemcat, Barcelona, Spain. “Over the last decade, other molecules have tried and failed to demonstrate efficacy for PPMS, so the positive results for OCREVUS mark an important step in our understanding of this highly disabling form of the disease.”

About Ocrevus (ocrelizumab). Ocrelizumab is an investigational, humanized monoclonal antibody designed to selectively target CD20-positive B cells. CD20-positive B cells are a specific type of immune cell thought to be a key contributor to myelin (nerve cell insulation and support) and axonal (nerve cell) damage, which can result in disability in people with MS. Based on preclinical studies, ocrelizumab binds to CD20 cell surface proteins expressed on certain B cells, but not on stem cells or plasma cells, and therefore important functions of the immune system may be preserved.

Genentech News Release, December 21, 2016

Roche News Release, December 20, 2016

“Medicare Made Clear”

Program: “Medicare Made Clear”

Presenter: T.D. Scholl

When: Tuesday, February 21, 2017

Time: 6:30 to 7:30 p.m.

Where: Central Library / Downtown Evansville
(Large Group Room)



Do you have questions about Medicare? We want to inform you about an upcoming presentation being offered by UnitedHealthcare: “Medicare Made Clear”. The presentation is suitable for anyone approaching or currently enrolled in Medicare, individuals who are still employed or on disability, as well as those who receive Medicare-Medicaid benefits.

T.D. Scholl, a licensed independent insurance representative, will review a Medicare guidebook and answer your questions about Medicare. The presentation is educational only; no information about any specific company products will be offered. Come and enjoy a stress-free investigation of your Medicare options.



Valentine’s Day – Keep it Simple



February 14th means Valentine’s Day for lovebirds across the country. You don’t have to spend a ton of money on Valentine’s Day. You can keep it simple and still have a great time.

1. *Dinner and a movie...at home.* You can have a candlelit home-cooked meal and rent a romantic movie or watch a movie on Netflix. Choose an affordable entrée such as chicken, pork, or fish. Pair it with pasta, and treat your significant other to an unforgettable evening.
2. *Travel the open road.* Just get in your car with your significant other and drive. You’ll create lasting memories as you travel to a town that you have never visited. You can also revisit special places in town where you have already created memories and take photos together.
3. *Game night.* Find a few board games, invite some other couples over, and have fun. You can serve Valentine’s Day themed appetizers, such as red-velvet cupcakes and heart-shaped candy, to enhance the mood.
4. *Deliver your own flowers.* Buy flowers locally and deliver them yourself. Personally delivering the flowers adds a romantic touch that your date will love.

Source: daveramsey.com



Saturday, March 18, 2017
Holiday Inn, Hwy 41 N., Evansville, IN

Saturday, March 18, 9:30-10:20 am – Registration, Light Breakfast & Pampering begins!

The Salon Professional Academy staff will be offering free pedicures, manicures, hair styling and waxing!

It's All About ME event is quickly approaching, and we are excited that you will be joining us! All sessions will take place Saturday, March 18th, at Holiday Inn, Hwy 41 N., Evansville, IN. Sessions will include yoga, acupuncture, health & wellness, and much more. Monte Skelton will entertain us with live music during dinner. *Sessions will run from 10:30am to 5:00pm with Dinner following.*

The registration fee is only \$20 per person!

This includes the pampering, sessions and all meals. (Please let us know if you will be staying for dinner.)

Staying the night?

If you would like to stay Friday, March 17th or Saturday, March 18th, please contact the hotel directly at 812-867-7999 and ask for the Tri-State MS Association rate. **You** will be responsible for making your hotel reservation (if you choose to stay overnight) and for paying the hotel when checking in.

Questions? If you have any questions, please call the TSMSA office today!
812-423-5943 or 1-866-514-4312.

All About ME Reservation

Please RSVP *today* by mailing check and this form to:

TSMSA
971-C S. Kenmore Dr.
Evansville, IN 47714

Name: _____

Name of Guest: _____

Please check meals you will be joining us for:

Saturday Meals: Breakfast _____ Lunch _____ Dinner _____



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*Valentine's
Day*

Valentine's Day is almost here! Here are great gift ideas to treat your loved ones & benefit TSMSA.



Send Flowers! Call Zeidler's or order on line at www.zeidlers.com and select TSMS, and the Tri-State MS Association will receive a donation. Flowers for special occasions, and a donation for TSMSA.



AmazonSmile. Go to smile.amazon.com and select us as your charity of choice. Amazonsmile will donate .5% of the price of your eligible purchases to TSMSA.



TSMSA Cookbook. *Mmmmmm...Smacking Good* contains 500 wonderful recipes by our MS family. The cost is only \$10 each.



Lucas Oil Football. A football is good for \$5 off a car wash or \$5 off an oil change. Every time you visit Lucas Oil, just show your football to redeem one of these savings. Purchase a football for only \$10.



Diamond Discount Card. This card contains discounts from 28 local businesses. You'll benefit from these savings until the expiration date, December 31, 2017. Purchase the cards for only \$10 each.