



# Transplant Times

A newsletter of the Transplant Awareness Organization of Greater Rochester

April/May 2018

[www.tao-rochester.org](http://www.tao-rochester.org) | 1.888.664.1463

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## Membership Meetings

Guest Speakers / Topic

**April**  
**Roberto Alejandro Hernandez, MD**  
*Liver Regeneration and the Future of Liver Transplantation*

**May**  
**Sharon Wesline, CCH**  
*Caring for the Caregiver*

## TAO Meets

**3rd Monday of the Month**  
**6:30 P.M.**  
 Christ Episcopal Church  
 Fellowship Room  
 36 South Main Street  
 Pittsford, NY

## A Message from the President

Spring is rapidly approaching and with that brings thoughts of life and rebirth. A transplant also brings life and rebirth. My husband is celebrating 16 years with his liver, and after the initial struggles he is doing well.

April is Donate Life Month, an opportunity for us to raise awareness and educate others to the benefits of organ, eye and tissue donation. We have an opportunity to enable people to register in the donor registry. New York State is the lowest in registered donors and yet one of the highest in need.

National Blue and Green Day is another opportunity to raise awareness by wearing blue & green, getting your nails decorated in blue and green, serving blue and green foods. Take a picture of how you celebrate this day and share it with us.

We are taking nominations for the TAO Board, please let us know if you are interested or if you know



of someone that may like to serve. They need not be a recipient.

Now that the weather is getting nicer we hope to see you at a future meeting. We've had some very informative presenters this year. If you have any suggestions for the upcoming meetings, please let us know!

Get out and enjoy the nicer weather. Enjoy the holidays that you celebrate and the time with your family, it is so precious!

*Debbie Gendrzewski*



**Visit, like our Facebook Page**  
[www.facebook.com/TAOfRochester](http://www.facebook.com/TAOfRochester)



**Arissa Kyler, MT-BC** presented *The role of music therapy and patient care* to TAO members at the February meeting.

Her presentation can be found on the TAO website. She is pictured above demonstrating different beats and the affect it has on us.

Debbie Yendrzeski is presenting a certificate of appreciation to Arissa for her contribution to TAO.



## Interested in Volunteering?

Interested in giving back after transplant? Are you willing to give a few hours a week and talk with transplant candidates or patients at UR Strong? There is a need for coverage from 3pm-8pm.

Contact Richard Perez at 585-232-2021 or email, [rperez540@hotmail.com](mailto:rperez540@hotmail.com) if you are interested in finding out more.



The River Run/Walk 5K is an annual event sponsored by the Friends of Strong Memorial Hospital and the hospital's transplant units. All proceeds directly benefit transplant patients. TAO is proud to be a sponsor of this event each year.

Transplant recipients who come to Strong for heart, liver, pancreas, or kidney transplant often need financial assistance while they await surgery and afterwards.

In addition to costly medical treatment, the need to travel – for some a great distance – adds financial strain on patients and their families.

Your support by participating in the run will help the hundreds of patients currently awaiting transplants, as well as those who continue to receive follow-up care from Strong.

**For info/registration: [riverrun.urmc.edu](http://riverrun.urmc.edu)**

## Our Sympathies

**TAO wishes to extend their condolences to the families of:**

Peter Davis  
Mary Stein  
Kathryn Ling  
Barbara Felo Maslar



## Riders Needed for Lilac Festival Float

Join us on the **Donate Life** float in this year's Lilac Festival Parade Saturday, May 12.

This is a great opportunity to reach hundreds of people in our community and thank them for their support of organ, eye and tissue donation.

If you are interested in riding on the float, please contact Karen Guarino at 585-272-7890 or [kguarino@lebrochester.org](mailto:kguarino@lebrochester.org) for details.

Please contact Karen by May 4.



## 2018 Membership Renewal

It's that time of year again – time to renew your TAO membership! Thank you for your past support and for renewing now so we can continue to have the impact you have come to expect from TAO.

Thank you for your continued commitment to TAO. We are counting on you to renew your membership by filling out the form on the back of this newsletter.

Additionally, please use the form to indicate if you wish to continue receiving the newsletter.

Thank you!

Norm Breen  
Membership Chair

## Transplant Times

### Submission Deadline

**For June/July issue:  
May 8, 2018**

**Articles /ideas email to:  
[auggieday@aol.com](mailto:auggieday@aol.com) or send by mail to:  
TAO, PO Box 23552, Rochester, NY  
14692-3552**

**We welcome your personal story and feel our members appreciate hearing about other's journey. So write your story and send it to us, a picture is always welcomed too!**



## Upcoming Events

**Friday, April 13**

National **Blue** and **Green** Day

**Sunday, April 15**

Rochester River Run

**Saturday, May 12**

Lilac Festival Parade



**Flu Season is here!**

## United Network for Organ Sharing

*Candidates listed as of March 7, 2018*

95,367	Kidney
13,861	Liver
3,970	Heart
1,663	Kidney/Pancreas
1,419	Lung
894	Pancreas
246	Intestine
44	Heart/Lung

**114,856 TOTAL**

[www.unos.org](http://www.unos.org)

*Totals may be less than sums due to patients in multiple categories*

## Transplant Support Group Meetings

### "Open Airways" Lung Gathering Group

- **Wednesday, April 18 @ noon**  
Jeremiah's , 2164 Fairport Nine Mile Pt. Rd.
- **Wednesday, May 16 @ noon**  
The Porterhouse  
Packett's Landing, Fairport

### Heart Transplant/VAD Support Group

- **Thursday, April 12 @ 6:30 pm**  
Mark Nickels, Transplant Psychiatrist
- **Thursday, May 10 @ 6:30 pm**  
Advanced Heart Failure Program Director  
Leway Chen, MD, MPH

All Heart Transplant/VAD Meetings are held in the 7th floor conference room near the 7-3400 Corridor unless otherwise indicated.

**TAO** [www.tao-rochester.org](http://www.tao-rochester.org)

**G** Act as a support group for transplant candidates, recipients & their families.

**O** Provide education and information on transplantation issues that surround it.

**A** Promote organ/tissue donation awareness.

**L** All transplant recipients, candidates, family and friends are welcome. Meetings held monthly & include programs of interest to the transplant community.

**S**

## Welcome New Members

**Catherine, "Cathy", Miller** had a recent liver transplant at Strong in October of 2017. Cathy is steadily recovering and is anxious to eventually get back to some of her former outdoor activities that included hiking, biking kayaking, and camping.

Cathy resides in North Syracuse and has been retired since she became ill and needed transplantation. For a number of years, Cathy was self-employed as a metal castings pattern maker, as well as a designer of all types of Styrofoam molds used in essentially all kinds of commercial packing boxes. She has a unique hobby of playing the bagpipes. Wouldn't she be a fun person to entertain us?

Although, Cathy has not fully returned to former activity levels, she is planning on participating in the River Run to walk as much as she is able to do. We all will support her in those efforts.

Welcome, Cathy.

Welcome **Debbie Narde** to TAO. Debbie and husband, Tom are from Beaver Dam, NY.

Debbie received a double lung transplant at the Cleveland Clinic in May of 2016. She was well supported throughout the transplant process by Tom, her sisters, son, and granddaughter. She has been feeling so well that she and her husband recently purchased a place in Sebring, Florida.

In addition to enjoying fun in the sun, Debbie likes to go to casinos to experience some of her favorite games like "Let it Ride", 21, and Blackjack. Other hobbies include reading and traveling.

Although she was an avid gardener prior to transplant, she has given that up due to the restrictions that come along with transplant patients.

Interestingly, Debbie's past employment included many years as an IV tech in a hospital pharmacy and later as a TSA representative at an airport. She and Tom are now retired spending quality time together.

## Wishes of Wellness

### Our healing thoughts and prayers go out to:

Bonnie Haefner  
Jerry Muto  
Shawn Pangburn  
Dave Spiro  
Josh Jeanneret



## CONTRIBUTIONS

### We are grateful to those individuals and organizations that generously contribute to TAO.

Guy & Fran Valone  
Cosimo & Nancy Palermo



## Board of Directors & Officers

**President**  
Debbie Yendrzkeski  
**Vice President**  
Gretchen Collins  
**Treasurer**  
Karen Gledhill  
**Secretary**  
Sue Muto  
**Membership**  
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Linda Barnard  
Erin Collins  
Karen Guarino  
Bonnie Haefner  
Marilyn Moran  
Judy Munn  
Janice Odenbach  
Melanie Reunion



## Honorees chosen for achievement in health care

By: Rochester Business Journal Staff

Twenty-six honorees—22 individuals and four organizations—have been selected as recipients of the Rochester Business Journal's 2018 Health Care Achievement Awards. This year's group is the 16<sup>th</sup> to receive the awards.

The event recognizes excellence, promotes innovation and honors the efforts of organizations and individuals making a significant impact on the quality of health care in our area. "The health care industry is crucial not only to Rochester's economy, but also to the well-being of the community, and the individuals and groups being honored go to great lengths to make Rochester a healthier community," said Suzanne Fischer-Huettner, publisher of the Rochester Business Journal. "We are thrilled to be able to honor the accomplishments of these talented and dedicated health care professionals."

Award nominations were made by community members, who supplied biographies, testimonials and other supporting information. Winners were selected by the Rochester Business Journal.

Individuals and groups are being honored in nine categories: *Health Care Innovation, Physician, Nursing, Management (hospitals), Management (long-term care), Senior Care, Special Needs, Staff, and Volunteer*. **Richard Perez**, volunteer at UR Medicine, Strong Memorial Hospital was honored in the volunteer group. Richard has volunteered over 5000 hours visiting with transplant recipients and candidates. Congratulations Richard!



## National Donate Life Month

National Donate Life Month (NDLM) was instituted by Donate Life America and its partnering organizations in 2003. Celebrated in April each year, NDLM features an entire month of local, regional and national activities to help encourage Americans to register as organ, eye and tissue donors and to celebrate those that have saved lives through the gift of donation.

For the 2018 National Donate Life Month artwork (*page 7*), Donate Life America was inspired by the image of a rainbow and Maya Angelou's quote, "Be a rainbow in someone else's cloud."

Often following a storm, the presence of a rainbow provides optimism and motivates us to endure through dark times. Similarly, organ, eye and tissue donation is the bridge of comfort and hope between one family's mourning and another's healing — turning tragedy into renewed life. The vibrant Donate Life rainbow in the National Donate Life Month artwork rises from stormy clouds, recognizing that it takes both rain and light to create the gift of a rainbow.

Maya Angelou's message applies to all of us, no matter our background or experiences. We all know rainbows — people that have helped carry us through life and its challenges. In turn, we may also have the opportunity to be rainbows in other people's clouds through the gift of organ, eye and tissue donation.

This April, we encourage you to reflect on the lives of those touched by donation and transplantation, and to share its prismatic effect. By registering to be a donor or considering living donation, you can change one ray of light into a spectrum of healing and compassion.

We wish you a Happy National Donate Life Month. Thank you for your efforts in educating about the cause of donation and the importance of registering your decision to be an organ, eye and tissue donor!

*Maya Angelou™ is a trademark licensed by Caged Bird Legacy, LLC.*

## Transplant Anniversaries

Tiffany Conboy	Kidney	April	2014
Wayne Dickinson	Kidney	April	2008
Geoff Foley	Bilateral Lung	April	2005
Michelle Halloran	Kidney	April	2010
Joseph Heil	Liver	April	2011
Doug Hemingway	Heart	April	2008
Fred Knewstub	Heart	April	2014
Nicholas Latona	Kidney	April	2016
Donald j. Leone	Liver	April	2009
Chuck Lundeen	Liver	April	2008
Susan Maglisco	Liver	April	2010
Sharon Mooney	Kidney	April	2010
Bernie Pierce	Lungs (2)	April	2011
Daniel Pszczolkowski	Heart	April	2011
Penny Sayles	Kidney	April	1998
Linda Marie Serenka	Kidney	April	2001
Jerry Stephenson	Liver	April	2016
Scott Stewart	Kidney	April	2013
G. Murray Thomas	Kidney	April	2010
Merrillan Thomas	Kidney	April	2010
Kirk Wilson	Liver	April	2016
Asya Zarkhi	Kidney	April	2003
Ginger Zimmerman	Heart	April	1998
Patricia Bianchi	Liver	May	2002
Larry O. Billings	Liver	May	2015
Norman Breen	Heart	May	2007
Marilyn Isenberg	Liver	May	2007
Joel Jacobs	Kidney	May	2017
Debbie Narde	Lung (2)	May	2016
Bonnie Patten	Liver	May	1995
Barbara Robida	Liver	May	2002
Phil Sinaguglia	Kidney	May	2004
Marilyn Sottile	Liver	May	2005

## Gift Ideas

A contribution to TAO in honor of or in memory of a loved one, special person or relative is always a thoughtful gift. It is a gift of caring that you can give on any occasion - a birthday, an anniversary or a special holiday.

**Please make your check payable to: TAO**

**Mail to:** TAO  
PO Box 23552  
Rochester, NY, 14692-3552



## National Donate Life Blue & Green Day Friday, April 13

During this day, the public is encouraged to wear blue and green, hold events and fundraisers, and partner with local restaurants, malls, media, and community organizations in an effort to promote the success of organ, eye and tissue transplantation and the extreme need for registered donors.

To register as an organ, eye and tissue donor in the NY State Donate Life Registry go to: [www.donatelife.ny.gov/register](http://www.donatelife.ny.gov/register).





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***It's time to renew your membership for 2018!  
Help support the TAO mission***



# TAO / Rochester Membership Application

*No one is denied membership because of financial considerations*

- DUES:**
- New Member
  - \$20 Family / Individual
  - unable to make dues payment at this time
  - Renewal
  - \$100 Business / Organization

Donations to help our organization are always welcome, and are tax-deductible. Make checks payable to:  
TAO of Greater Rochester, PO Box 23552, Rochester, NY, 14692-3552.

Name (please print) \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_ City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Phone ( ) \_\_\_\_\_ E-mail \_\_\_\_\_

- Candidate
- Recipient
- Family Member
- Donor Family
- Friend
- Professional
- Business / Organization

Candidate/Recipient information: # of Transplants \_\_\_\_\_ Hospital \_\_\_\_\_

Date(s) \_\_\_\_\_ Organ(s)/Tissue(s) \_\_\_\_\_

Check here if you do not wish your transplant anniversary date to be published in the *Transplant Times*.