

GREAT ATTENDANCE - SUMMER SOCIAL A SUCCESS

We had 32 patient members, friends & family members attend our regular Dystonia Support Group of AI/B'ham's summer social.

We had plenty of food and could have had a "bake sale" with all the dessert left--over's. No one went away hungry.

More importantly, the "social interaction" was tremendous! With 4 new Dystonia patient members and their families, the interaction and questions/answers were running hot and heavy!!!! I want to personally thank Teri, our member from Montgomery with Generalized Dystonia who has been such a loyal & productive member, for making a special effort to be there since we had 2 new members recently diagnosed with Generalized Dystonia who'd never seen another person living with the debilitating movement disorder. Teri is proof that there's "LIFE AFTER DYSTONIA DIAGNOSIS" that you can live to the fullest!!!!

welcome back! It was great to have Ken & Rita back in attendance. Rita has just been through 2 knee surgeries and is facing back surgery soon, but looked GREAT -- in fact better than I can ever remember.

Sorry that BETTY from Alexander City & her husband could not attend because Betty continues to struggle with health problems.

Also, SISTER "K" from Cullman sent an email alerting us that EVELYN, also from Cullman has been a patient at Cullman Medical Center and has just been moved to Hanceville Nursing Home, Room 426, at 420 Main Street, Hanceville, AL 35077 for rehabilitation. Evelyn's suffering from back problems. Sister "K" sent prayerful good wishes to all!!!

Please send a Get Well card to Evelyn - again that's Room 426, #420 Main Street, Hanceville, AL 35077.

Tim and his wife Virginia from Headland, AL have been very, very active in bringing AWARENESS ABOUT DYSTONIA to Southeast Alabama. Tim got a Letter to the Editor published in the Elba Clipper dated June 4, 2009.....a full copy of the DSG Dystonia Bookmark distributed to hundreds of Alabama public libraries by DSG and its members...and a Letter to the Editor published in the Abbeville Herald, also dated June 4, 2009....all as part of Alabama Dystonia Awareness week as proclaimed by Al Gov. Riley.

Tim also got The Dothan Eagle to publish 2/3rd's of a front page of one section, complete with 3 photo shots of local area Dystonia patients, including 2 dystonia patients in the area who don't come to DSG meetings because it's such a long, long drive. That's why Tim & Virginia are trying to organize a "WireGrass Support Group" as sort of a spin-off of DSG for people who just can't travel all the way to Birmingham for support, to be activist's or to raise awareness.

Tim brought me original copies of the various newspapers which I'll use to prepare a "display board" similar to what was done on the Huntsville Times coverage of 4 Huntsville-area dystonia patients and what Pat & Bill had done in the Harpersville regional newspapers.

We welcome the following new members:

Robert
Amber
Stacie
James

DSG Treasurer Dick Darden handed out add'l copies of the Member Profile & Therapeutic History form we're trying to accumulated from all members. A copy of the form was included in the Announcement of the Summer Social. If you can't find a copy, please email me at Klwmqw@aol.com or Dick at rtd@firstsunbelt.com for a copy.

It was GREAT to have Pat and Bill attend the Summer Social. Pat's been through painful rotary cuff surgery and it was doubtful she could attend, but our "leader" was front and center. Mary Ann substituted as the meeting leader, leading the discussions and making introductions since Pat's presence was iffy.

Josefine from Gadsden has also had some health problems and could not attend recent meetings, but she and Ted were "front and center" at the Summer Social.

Richard & Janice from Pinson were there as usual, as was Brenda.