

Nine Outreach Offices to Serve You

Ashland Outreach Office

400 Chapple Ave.
Ashland, WI 54806
715-682-3974
Counties served: Ashland, Bayfield, Iron

Eau Claire Outreach Office

1227 B Menomonie Street
Eau Claire, WI 54703
715-835-7050
Counties served: Barron, Buffalo, Chippewa, Dunn, Eau Claire, Jackson, Pepin, Pierce, Polk, Rusk, St. Croix

Fox Valley Outreach Office

201 E. Bell Street
Neenah, WI 54956
920-727-5555
Counties Served: Calumet, Green Lake, Marquette, Outagamie, Winnebago

Green Bay Outreach Office

2900 Curry Lane, Suite A
Green Bay, WI 54311
920-469-2110
Counties served: Brown, Door, Kewaunee, Manitowoc, Marinette, Menominee, Oconto, Shawano, Waupaca

Hayward Outreach Office

15618 Windrose Lane, Suite 100
Hayward, WI 54843
715-934-2222
Counties served: Ashland, Bayfield, Burnett, Douglas, Iron, Sawyer, Washburn

La Crosse Outreach Office

115 5th Avenue South, #421
La Crosse, WI 54601
608-784-5011
Counties Served: Crawford, Juneau, La Crosse, Monroe, Trempealeau, Vernon, and Houston, MN

Rhinelanders Outreach Office

203 Schiek Plaza
Rhinelanders, WI 54501
715-362-7779
Counties served: Florence, Forest Langlade, Lincoln, Oneida, Price, Vilas

Superior Outreach Office

424 W. Superior St., Suite 202
Duluth, MN 55802
218-726-4822
Counties served: Douglas, Burnett, Washburn

Wausau Outreach Office

1000 Lakeview Drive
Wausau, WI 54403
715-848-1221
Counties served: Adams, Clark, Marathon, Portage, Taylor, Waushara, Wood

The Alzheimer's Association of Greater Wisconsin is a



Please don't toss this Newsletter!

We encourage you to "recycle" our newsletter! Share with a friend, doctor's office, church or club. If you wish to be removed from our mailing list, please contact us at 1-920-469-2110.

Your contributions support the printing and mailing of this newsletter.
Thank you!

Greater Wisconsin Chapter
2900 Curry Lane, Suite A
Green Bay, WI 54311

www.alzgw.org

Helpline 1-800-272-3900

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Greater Wisconsin Chapter Newsletter

Published quarterly for our donors, volunteers, advocates and friends in the Alzheimer's community.

Winter 2006

www.alzgw.org

HELPLINE: 1-800-272-3900

A Special Way to Honor Outstanding Caregivers

Each year the Alzheimer's Association Chapter Network invites nominations from across Wisconsin to honor outstanding people and organizations involved in helping families deal with Alzheimer's disease. The 2006 Outstanding Caregiver Awards will be announced at the 20th Annual State Conference on Alzheimer's Disease and Related Disorders set for May 7-9 in Green Bay.

The Greater Wisconsin Chapter cordially invites your nominations in the following award categories:

- Family Caregiver Award
- Professional Award
- Organizational Award
- Physician's Award
- Advocacy Award
- Special Service Award

Nominees must be actively involved in advancing the mission of the Alzheimer's Association in Wisconsin and have made an exceptional contribution to improving the lives of persons or families affected by Alzheimer's disease. Family caregivers, health care professionals, physicians, organizations, members of the media, legislators and others in Wisconsin who serve and support those with Alzheimer's disease and related disorders are eligible.

How To Nominate Someone:

Written nominations must include the name of the nominee, title, organization, address, phone, email, award category, a one-page written narrative stating how the nominee has benefited persons with Alzheimer's disease and how they have worked with the Alzheimer's Association. The name, address, phone and email of

the person submitting the nomination is also required. Nominations must be postmarked no later than March 10, 2006.

Mail your nomination(s) to:
Kim Marheine, Awards Committee, Alzheimer's Association, 201 E. Bell Street, Neenah, WI 54956. They can also be e-mailed to kim.marheine@alz.org. For more information, contact Kim at 920-727-5555 or visit the website at www.alzwi.org.

Serving the regions of:

- Ashland
- Eau Claire
- Fox Valley
- Green Bay
- Hayward
- La Crosse
- Rhinelanders
- Superior
- Wausau

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SILVER ANNIVERSARY...25 YEARS OF CARING
1980 - 2005

Hilda Pridgeon was there to support Wisconsin as the Alzheimer's Association Chapters were forming. Hilda, like hundreds of other wonderful volunteers that have come since, helped the Alzheimer's Association to evolve into the most recognized Alzheimer's organization in the world. Now we have 80 chapters across the U.S. providing support to the estimated 5 million Americans suffering from Alzheimer's disease.

In the twenty-five years since it's founding, the Alzheimer's Association has been a catalyst for a generation of important advancements. Its founders are Alzheimer's advocates whose relentless

drive and dedication to create a national organization continues to inspire hope in caregivers, patients and families across the country.

"When we started the Alzheimer's Association, we had few resources but a lot of caring and a strong will to do something...in twenty-five years we have done much to increase knowledge about the disease, to help families, and to fund and advance research. The greatest challenge is still ahead of us with the aging baby boomer generation."

— Hilda M. Pridgeon,
Founding Board Member

Contributions and Gifts

(Donations from September through November, 2005)

* indicates Remembrance Society

General Donations

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 Pat Trokan

Research Memorials

In Memory of Leland C. Atkinson
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 Laura Atkinson
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In Memory of Virginia Carpenter
 Larry & Linda Carpenter
In Memory of Floyd Gajafsky
 Bob & Kathy Brown
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 David Gajafsky
 Carolyn Kissel
 Roger & Karen Newton
 Jack & Sue Schmidtke
In Honor of Gloria Havlichek
 Jamie Kronberger
In Honor of Tom Holtz
 Valerie Rieden & Greg Dolan
In Honor of Raymond Kirschling
 Anne Kirschling
In Honor of Clem Ozbourne
 Janice Crooks
 Wendie Witzke
In Honor of Robert Pike
 John & Willa Dabrowski

In Memory of Arnold Roskom
 Verona Roskom
In Honor of Grover Schellinger
 Jackie Schellinger
In Memory of Keith Sobek
 Amy Sobek
In Honor of Frances Steines
 Linda Spindler
 Marion Spindler
 Emily Steines
 Roni Steines

In Memory of
In Memory of John D. Abts
 Ruth Abts
 Gregory & Karen Husman
 Amy & Richard Krull
 Lawrence & Bonnie LaPlant
 Bruce & Patti Meiers
 David & Lisa Pierre
 Matt Reynebeau
 Xavier Educational System
 Xavier High School
In Memory of Miguel T. Babreros
 James & Kathleen Bartl
In Memory of Stanley Barse
 Thomas & Karen Feldner
 Jean & Arnold Fritz
 Herbert Kronholm
 Terry & Bonnie Lewis
 Scott & Heather
 Wucherpennig
In Memory of Ross Bauknecht
 Phyllis Anderson
 *Barbara Bauknecht
 Michael Courter
In Memory of Harold Bruring
 Mr. & Mrs. Harold Bartig
 Mr. & Mrs. Robert Bechen
 Lucy Bruring
 Gordon & Diana Buchner
 Mr. & Mrs. Otto Butzman
 Glass Molders Pottery
 Plastics & Allied Workers
 Union 437
 Kwik Trip Inc
 Bev & Jenny Marco
 James & Sharon Schultz
 Paul Sullivan
 Sally & Rudi Wuest
In Memory of Joanne C. Bush
 Lee & Agnes Bush
 Dr. William Bush
 June & MA Chionchio
 Donald & Anita Gerth
 Jean & James Jensen

Donald & Naomi Kayon
 Timothy Koch
 John Sievers
 Naomi Sievers
 Milton & Mary Spoehr
 Randall & Karen Wesner
 Jan Wittkopf
 Harry & Virginia Wolff
 Ed & Susan Yankowski
 Martin & Carol Zuther
In Memory of Alvin Bushy
 George & Margaret Burby
 Karen Bushy
 Luella Bushy
 Jerome & Delores Chervenka
 Tom & Cookie Christenson
 Floyd Hanstedt
 Barb & Rick Hillman
 Linda Kosterman
 Debbie Krueger
 Jerry & Pat Krueger
 Elda Miller
 Paulette Pocquette
 Don Wanta
 Rock & Julie Wery
In Memory of Marion Carlson
 Jean Carlson
In Memory of LaVonne Chevront
 David & Linda Pieper
In Memory of Geraldine Clough Volkman & Nathan A. Volkman
 Candice Marsh Luebke
 Randolph & Cynthia Marsh
In Memory of Kathryn C. Conzemius
 Thomas & Sharon Ryan
In Memory of Lillian Cyrtmus
 David Cyrtmus
In Memory of Dorothy Delazzari
 Leonard & Beverly Olson
 Ronald & Jean Olson
 RA Wolfert
In Memory of Elaine Devine
 Elizabeth & William Mitchell
In Memory of Viola Ebert
 Suzie Sutherland
In Memory of James Emerson
 Audrey Erickson
 John & Vicki Graaskamp
 Margaret & Michael Johnson

In Memory of Harold Bruring
 Mr. & Mrs. Harold Bartig
 Mr. & Mrs. Robert Bechen
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 Jean & James Jensen

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Education Opportunities Across the Chapter

DEMENTIA CARE SPECIALIST

Dementia Care Specialist Training is a training program recommended for caregivers involved in all levels of caring for persons with dementia. This may include nursing assistants, home health professionals, personal care workers, nurses, activity professionals, social workers, administrators, and family caregivers. Fee required.

January 11, 18, & 25
 8:30-3:30pm
 Rutledge Home, Chippewa Falls

February 8, March 8, & April 12
 8:30-3:30pm
 Northeast Wisconsin Technical College

March 1 & 15
 8:30-3:30pm
 Arpin

March 13, 20 & 27
 8:30-3:30pm
 Bethany Riverside Faith & Life Center
 2575 South 7th Street, La Crosse

March 29 & April 5
 8:30-3:30pm
 Wisconsin Indianhead Technical College
 Rice Lake

April 19 & May 3
 8:30-5:00 pm
 Manitowoc County Aging Resource Center
 4319 Expo Drive, Manitowoc

April 21, 28, & May 12
 8:30-3:30 pm
 Fox Valley Technical College

May 10 & May 24
 8:30-5:00 pm
 Caestecker Public Library
 518 Hill Street, Green Lake

PARTNERING WITH YOUR DOCTOR
 Partnering With Your Doctor is a two-hour seminar for persons with memory problems and their care partners. It is designed to improve communications, reduce stress and prepare for medical visits. Offered free of charge.

March 14
 1:00-3:00 pm
 Oconto Fally Community Library

251 N. Main Street, Oconto Falls
SEMINARS AND PRESENTATIONS
 These seminars and presentations are open to all. For more information, call 1-800-272-3900 or 715-362-7779.

February 6, March 6, April 3
Alzheimer's Disease HOPE (Healthy Options for Prevention Excellence)
 Dr. Abhilash Desai - 9:30-10:30am
 Thompson Community Center, Appleton

February 11
Women's Wellness Day
 8:30-3:00pm
 New London High School, New London

February 23
Safe Return registration
 1:00-4:00pm
 Dunn County Office on Aging
 Menomonie Senior Center

March 9
What is Alzhiemer's Disease?
 Our Lady of Victory Hospital
 Power Club Support Group, Stanley

March 21
Spring Training 2006-Mind, Body, and Soul
 Maintain Your Brain
 Senior American's Day
 University of Wisconsin, Eau Claire

April 27
How We Grieve: Tools for Maintaining the Connection
 9:00-3:30pm
 UW-Green Bay Christie Theater
 University Union, Green Bay

May 7 - 9
20th Annual State Conference on Alzheimer's disease and Related Disorders
 Regency Suites, Green Bay

May 13
Third Annual Help, Hope, & Humor Conference
 10:00-2:00pm
 Bridgewood Resort and Conference Center,

FOR INFORMATION . . .
 To learn more about these educational opportunities, or to request a program in your area, please call the Alzheimer's Association at 1-800-272-3900, 715-362-7779 or your local outreach office listed on the back of this newsletter.

Neenah

LIBRARY RESOURCES

New Video in our Resource Library

Communication: Caring for Someone with Mid to Late Stage Alzheimer's Disease.

This educational video produced by Healing Arts Communications and written and directed by Marion Karpinski, RN, discusses some typical issues that families face during the mid to late stages of Alzheimer's disease. Personal care topics discussed include: balancing the day, activities, naps, pain management, tolerance levels, repetitive calling out, sexuality and intimacy, and incontinence. General caregiving topics also include: flexibility and humor, changes that occur in mid to late stages, and the core principles of Alzheimer's care.

While stressing the importance of personalized care for each person with dementia, professional consultants offer practical advice and general caregiving principles that can be applied to individual situations as the disease progresses.

The video is available on loan. Call us at 1-800-272-3900.

On-line Message Board and Chatrooms Available

Log on to a 24-hour online support community for:

- People with Alzheimer's
- Family caregivers
- Professional caregivers

You can browse messages anonymously.

No sign up is required and no personal data is captured. Message board and chatrooms can be found at www.alz.org/messageboards.

Development

How do I leave gifts to the Alzheimer's Association in my will?

If you would like to support the mission of the Alzheimer's Association of Greater Wisconsin, make sure the bequest is precisely designated in your will.

You can specify a certain item, a set sum of money, a percentage of your estate or the remainder of your estate once other bequests, debts and taxes are paid. Your estate may receive an estate tax charitable deduction for the amount of the gift.

Trusts created by your will at your death (or in a living trust) can be excellent ways to care for your loved ones. You can also make a contribution through such a trust to us and any other favored charities. Several options are available, and we would be happy to discuss with you the particulars of each. Call us at 1-715-344-2929



Alzheimer's doesn't mean you forget how to care.

Dealing with Alzheimer's can be tough. But it doesn't mean you have to forget about the joys of living. If you or someone you love is suffering from Alzheimer's call the Alzheimer's Association helpline for support, understanding, information day or night at 1-800-272-3900

**Make the first call to 1-800-272-3900
or visit www.alz.org or alzgw.org**

alzheimer's  association
the compassion to care, the leadership to conquer

Bracelets, Cookbooks & Pins Always Available

Looking for a unique gift or a way to bring awareness to Alzheimer's disease? The Alzheimer's Association of Greater Wisconsin has cookbooks (\$8), bracelets (\$2) and logo pins (\$2) available for sale.

For information please call us 1.800.272.3900 or visit our website www.alzgw.org



Annual Report 2004-2005 Available

The Greater Wisconsin Chapter recently published its Annual Report for 2004-2005. Copies can be requested by calling us at 1-920-469-2110 or visit

Begin 2006 as a Member of the Alzheimer's Association!

This is a great time to consider an annual membership with the Greater Wisconsin Chapter. Memberships support the on-going operating needs of the Chapter. Individual memberships start at \$25 and are good for 12 months. All members are guaranteed the Chapter newsletter distributed four times each year.

Membership dues are as follows:

- Individual member \$25 - \$49
- Professional member \$50 - \$99
- Business/organization member \$100 or more

Complete and return the gift envelope enclosed in this newsletter and start your membership today!

Making a planned gift to the Alzheimer's Association of Greater Wisconsin is easy. Call us at 1-800-272-3900 to learn how!

Research News

Research and Videoconference Update Treatment of Behavioral Symptoms

On November 4th the Alzheimer's Association held its annual videoconference on Alzheimer's disease and related dementias. Featured speaker was Dr. Abhilash Desai, of ThedaCare Behavioral Health in Appleton. Dr. Desai, a geriatric psychiatrist, spoke about some of the issues regarding the treatment of behavioral symptoms. Here are some of the questions asked of Dr. Desai and the panel and the responses:

1. Is Ativan an appropriate treatment for persons with dementia who refuse to bathe?

Dr. Desai: "No medication will be useful." There is no FDA-approved medication designed particularly for the treatment of behavior challenges in persons with dementia. The best approach would include:

- *Non-pharmacological: Get to know the person and use this knowledge as distraction and communication. Talk to him or her about something that you know provides joy, comfort.*
- *Avoid bathing in the shower if that is what is causing the problem. Change the way bathing is provided by using towel baths, sink-side or sponge baths, etc.*
- *Change your expectations and be creative in a dignified manner. Not all persons need to bathe every day or to the extent that we might expect of ourselves. Provide the bath during the time of day and in the manner that is most comfortable for the person, not what is most convenient for the staff.*

2. What is the difference between a delusion and a hallucination?

Dr. Desai: Delusions are thoughts. To the person, they are real beliefs and he or she is convinced that the belief is real. Hallucinations are perceptions that are seen or heard.

Separating the two is not the most important. More importantly, we need to look at how this affects or changes the person's functioning. Acknowledging feelings and trying to make the person feel safe are most important.

3. Any suggestions for the person with dementia who has oral fixation behaviors?

Dr. Desai: This could be a response to feeling anxious or lack of impulse control. If anxious, we should look at ways to channel the anxiety. Seroquel may be a medication that might work due to the treatment of anxiety related to psychotic symptoms. Serotonin or SSRI medication may be beneficial in treating impulse control behaviors.

4. What is "validation?"

Dr. Desai: Validation is not an excuse to lie to someone. The belief with validation is that persons with dementia "live" at different levels of awareness. At some level, a person with dementia may know and understand. As a result, we should not disregard or ignore any question or statement, even if offered repetitively. We need to understand the underlying reason for the question or statement and validate or acknowledge the person's feelings, beliefs or perceived needs.

5. What approaches might be suggested for a 68-year-old person with alcohol-related dementia who refuses to eat and isolates self?

Dr. Desai: Remeron has been suggested to increase appetite and encourage better sleep habits. A comprehensive psychiatric evaluation would be beneficial to identify potential depression or paranoia. Blood levels should also be checked to determine whether there are other medical conditions that need to be considered. Finally and maybe most importantly, caregivers need to work on developing and maintaining non-task oriented relationships with this person, so he or she feels comfortable with them socially as well as for times of providing care.

In the content of his program Dr. Desai noted that there are many causes of symptomatic behavior, and that 90% of behavioral symptoms are preventable if we take the time to find the cause:

- *Unmet needs (hunger, thirst, boredom, sexuality, socialization, understanding)*
- *Environmental causes (caregiver approaches, noise, over or under-stimulation, changes in routines, changes in caregivers, lack of space or opportunity to move about)*
- *Medications*
- *Dementia*
- *Medical conditions (pain, infection, sleep apnea)*
- *Psychiatric disorders (30% of persons in the moderate to severe stages of dementia will have psychotic symptoms and 20-25% will have hallucinations with advanced dementia)*

"We cannot expect a person without legs to walk... why do we expect a person with short-term memory loss to remember?"

The Alzheimer's Association is appreciative of the efforts of Dr. Desai and other health care professionals in supporting persons with dementia and their care partners in a dignified and thoughtful manner. For more information or support about caring for persons who may communicate via challenging behavior please call the Alzheimer's Association's 24-hour Helpline at 1-800-272-3900.

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WOOD COUNTY

• 2nd Thursday of the month at Centralia Center, 220 3rd Ave. S., Wisconsin Rapids 9:30 a.m. and 6:00 p.m.

Lonnie Cole: 715-421-8900

• Last Thursday of the month at Marshfield Area Respite Care, 205 E. Third, Marshfield 7:00 p.m.

Marilyn Seidl-Kramer: 715-384-8478 Ext. 8478

IRONWOOD, MICHIGAN

• 4th Monday of the month at Friendship House 6:30 p.m.

Larry Wilczewski: 906-932-7410

Specialty Support Groups

ADULT CHILDREN SUPPORT GROUP

WINNEBAGO COUNTY

4th Monday of the month at Aurora Health Center, 855 N. Westhaven Drive, Oshkosh 6:00-8:00 p.m.

Sue Oaks: 920-685-6331

SPOUSAL SUPPORT GROUP

WINNEBAGO COUNTY

4th Tuesday of the month at Valley VNA, 201 E. Bell Street, Neenah 10:00 a.m.

Becky Reichelt - 920-727-5555

EARLY STAGE SUPPORT GROUPS

BROWN COUNTY

3rd Tuesday of the month at Santa Maria Nursing Home, 430 S. Clay, Green Bay 3:15-4:15 p.m.

Cathy Rekitzke or Tricia Plate: 920-432-5231

FOX VALLEY AREA

1st Wednesday of the month, Menasha Public Library, 440 1st Street

2:00-3:00 p.m. — *R.S.V.P.'s necessary*

Becky Reichelt: 920-727-5555

MANITOWOC COUNTY

1st Tuesday of the month at Manitowoc Aging Resource Center, 4319 Expo Drive, Manitowoc 10:00-11:00 a.m.

Jan Lettenberger: 920-683-4100



Remembrance Society Giving exceeds \$ 58,907 in 2005

Remembrance Society is a giving club to support the Alzheimer's Association of Greater Wisconsin. Membership begins with an initial gift of \$100 and continues with an annual gift of any size. New members are welcomed at any time.

The Greater Wisconsin Chapter proudly recognizes our Remembrance Society members:

AGI HEALTHCARE OF CRANDON
ALBEE, ALEC
BAGNIEWSKI, LORI
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HOME INSTEAD SENIOR CARE
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WEISE, JOYCE
WILD ROSE AUCTION / REAL ESTATE
WILCOX, DALE & GALE
WITMER, MARY & JOSEPH
WOOD, DAVE & BECKY
ZIMMER, BEVERLY

Highlights

ALZHEIMER'S

Don't forget who I am inside
I know I'm changing
I still have my mind
It's a part of aging
Things may be hazy
I'm not getting lazy
These days hold anticipation
There is fear of what lies down the road
The complications and confusion grow
Becoming a burden with which to be dealt
Believe me, companionship helps
Everyone needs responsibility
Even when you don't grasp reality
I am worthy of pride and beauty
It's not just denial and pity
This is only a touch of senility
I am still alive inside
Come help me learn how not to hide
In you I wish to confide
Even though I'm not who I once was
The worst thing you can do is judge
My grief and loss and pain and pleasure
Are as unpredictable as the weather
I'm not as keen on social graces
Forging on with slowing paces
I need to see familiar faces
When I'm missing old forgotten places
Don't be torn apart by stress
I harbor no long time regrets
And you can bet
Longevity is best
But a sense of humor can be healing
A smooth ride though, O, real appealing
Loneliness is a cold dark feeling
Try to find some help with dealing
I know it hurts and your head is reeling
With my layers of life quickly peeling

*Original poetry by
Crystal Stripling, Activity Assistant
East View Medical & Rehabilitation, Antigo*

Rhineland Red Hatters Walk the Miles!

November 2005 was Alzheimer's Awareness Month. Many families, agencies and individuals remembered those with memory concerns and their families by attending candlelight vigils and other special programs in communities throughout the Greater WI Chapter.



Left to right: Elizabeth Kriesel, Judy Durkee and Jan Eldredge

In Rhineland two groups of ladies at The Josephine Haus and The Alice Haus took seriously their task of exercising for fitness by walking special "miles" to raise money for the Alzheimer's Association. All of these ladies, who live in these community based residential facilities have their own "Red Hats" that they designed and decorated, and they meet socially at least once a month. Some wore their hats while walking.

Elizabeth Kreisel walked every day, three times a day to accumulate 700 special miles. Even those that needed assistance with their walking accumulated miles.

At a special dinner, with a menu of pizza, coke and chocolate pie, they presented the Alzheimer's Association with a grand sum of \$350 raised in November by residents and staff. "Hats off" to these wonderful folks for recognizing the need to stay physically fit even into their 90's and caring for others by helping the mission of the Alzheimer's Association to have the "compassion to care and the leadership to conquer."

2nd Annual Appreciation Day Planned in Eau Claire

*"Recognizing You:
The Quiet Heroes of Alzheimer's Disease"*

Please join the Alzheimer's Association in recognizing those individual who have made a positive impact on the lives of persons with Alzheimer's disease.

Sunday, April 2, 2006 — 2:00 until 4:00 p.m.
St. Mary's Community Center
1828 Lynn Avenue
Altoona (Eau Claire area)

Entertainment provide by Warren Petryk and Tara Metcalf. Enjoy decedent desserts garnished with a cheese and fruit buffet.

Tickets: \$15.00 per person; \$25.00 per couple

2nd Annual Rhythm & Brews

Friday, April 21, 2006
6 – 10 pm
Dale's Weston Lanes
Weston, WI



Great Beer, Music, Food, Prizes and Fun on a Friday Night in the Wausau area. Sample some of the finest micro-beers available!

Tickets are \$25 in advance;
\$30 at the door
Proceeds benefit the
Alzheimer's Association
For tickets call: 715-848-1221
or 1-800-272-3900

Caregiver Support Groups

For information on these support groups, please call 1-800-272-3900

ADAMS COUNTY

- 4th Tuesday in Jan., Mar., May, July, Sept. & Nov. at Adams County Memorial Hospital, 402 W. Lake Street, Adams - 11:00 a.m.
Nira Fisher: 608-339-8372

ASHLAND COUNTY

- 2nd Wednesday of the month at Ashland Senior Center - 3 p.m.
Linda Pepping: 715-372-8160

BARRON COUNTY

- 2nd Tuesday of the month at Bethany Lutheran Church, 35 W. Messenger St. in Rice Lake - Noon
Jill Keefer: 715-537-5691
Gloria Vaughn: 715-537-6225

BAYFIELD COUNTY

- 2nd Wednesday of the month at Washburn Public Library - 6:00 p.m.
Linda Pepping: 715-372-8160

BROWN COUNTY

- 1st Monday of the month at DePere Community Center - 5:30 p.m.
Jean Howard: 920-391-1820
- 1st Wednesday of the month at Bethany United Methodist Church - 10:00 a.m.
Jan Lillich: 920-866-1188
Monica Johnson: 920-494-5231
- 3rd Tuesday of the month at Brown County Aging Resource Center - 6:30 p.m.
Ann Golueke: 920-448-4311

BUFFALO COUNTY

- 4th Wednesday of the month at Buffalo Co. Courthouse in Alma, 407 So. Second Street, 3rd floor - 1:00 p.m.
Ann Keller/Lola Longyhore: 608-685-4412

BURNETT COUNTY

- 3rd Wednesday of the month at Capeside Cove, 23926 4th Ave. S., Siren - 4:00 p.m.
Call 715-934-2222

CALUMET COUNTY

- 3rd Wednesday of the month at Chilton Community Center, 42 School St., Chilton - 4:15 p.m.
Marlene Schneider/Vickie Vande Yacht: 920-898-4296

CHIPPEWA COUNTY

- 3rd Tuesday of each month at Our House, 105 Marrs St., Chippewa Falls - 2:00 p.m.
Kelly Rivard: 715-723-6037
Gerry Mann: 715-723-9241

CLARK COUNTY

- 2nd Tuesday of each month at Neillsville Senior Center, 602 Oak Street - 1:30 p.m.
Mary Sladich: 715-743-5144
- 2nd Thursday of each month at City Hall Community Room, Colby - 10:30 a.m.
Diane Kroeplin: 715-223-2352

CRAWFORD COUNTY

- 2nd Wednesday of the month at Faith Evangelical Free Church, 1110 Cass St., Prairie du Chien - 1:00 p.m.
Kathy Leard: 608-326-0235
Lori Bagniewski: 608-784-5011

DOOR COUNTY

- 1st Monday of the month at Meadows of Scandia, 286 Smith, Sister Bay - 1:30 p.m.
JoAnn Thomas/Carrie Kostreva: 920-854-2317

DOUGLAS COUNTY

- 4th Wednesday of the month at Memory Lane, 2231 Catlin, Superior - 1:00 p.m. 715-394-2587

DUNN COUNTY

- 2nd Thursday of the month at Christ Lutheran Church, 1306 Wilcox St., Menomonie - 1:00 p.m.
Margaret Strauss/Becky Nelson: 715-232-1116

EAU CLAIRE COUNTY

- Last Thursday of the month at United Methodist Church, 337 Lake St. - 1:30 p.m.
Angela Hite: 715-832-6696
Betty Rossiter: 715-772-4432
- 2nd Thursday of the month at the Alzheimer's Association office, 1227B Menomonie Street - 6:30 p.m. *Joyce Sobotta: 715-878-4474*

FLORENCE COUNTY

- 3rd Thursday of the month at Families Ties Adult Day Ctr., 800 Crystal Lake Iron Mtn., MI - 1:30 p.m. 906-774-8032

FOREST COUNTY

- 3rd Friday of the month at Crandon Court House 200 E. Madison - 10:00 a.m.
Terese Poe: 715-478-3351

GREEN LAKE COUNTY

- General Support Group
- 4th Tuesday of the month at Caestecker Public Library, 518 Hill St., Green Lake - 2:00 p.m.
RSVP's necessary to Veronica Marks: 920-294-4070

HOUSTON COUNTY, MINNESOTA

- 2nd Wednesday of the month at 1:00 p.m. &
- 4th Wednesday of the month at 1:00 p.m. at Prince of Peace Lutheran Church, 21 N. Hill St., LaCrescent, MN
Tina Heyer: 608-788-7730 OR 507-895-8254
- Last Tuesday of the month at Valley View Nursing Home, 510 E. Cedar - Houston, MN 4:00 p.m.
Judy Munsen/Ione McManimon: 507-896-3125

JACKSON COUNTY

- 3rd Thursday of the month at Pine View Care Center, 400 County Rd. R, Black River Fall - 2:30
Shawn Calisto/Rozanne Ruzic/Joanne Slawson 715-284-5396

JUNEAU COUNTY

- 2nd Monday of the month at Juneau Co. Adult Day Ctr., 220 E. LaCrosse St., Mauston - 1:30 p.m.
Heidi Randall: 608-847-9366
- 4th Monday every other month at Heritage Manor Conference Room, 307 Royall Ave., Elroy - 2:00 pm *Keri Hineman: 608-462-8491*

KEWAUNEE COUNTY

- General Support Group
- 3rd Wednesday of the month at Luxemburg Community Center, 206 Maple St., Luxemburg - 10:00 a.m. *Michelle Dax: 920-388-0626*

LA CROSSE COUNTY

- Last Wednesday of the month at Hillview Health Care, 3501 Park Lane - 1:15 p.m.
Lynn Dettinger: 608-789-4800
- 1st and 3rd Tuesdays of the month at Village on Cass, 225 S. 24th St. - 3 p.m. 608-791-9505 - *new members call ahead*
- 2nd Thursday of the month at Gundersen Lutheran Clinic, Educ. Ctr., Family Practice Conference Room, 2nd floor, 3100 S. Kinney Coulee Rd., Onalaska - 6:00 pm
Lori Bagniewski: 608-784-5011
- 2nd Tuesday in Feb., May, Aug., Nov. at Lakeview Health Care, 902 E. Garland, West Salem - 1:00 p.m.
Theresa Helgeson: 608-786-1400

LANGLADE COUNTY

- 3rd Tuesday of the month at Antigo Community Ctr., 411 Superior - 2:00 p.m.
Linda Mezei: 715-627-6232

- 3rd Tuesday of the month at Eastview Medical Rehab., 729 Park St., Antigo - 1:00 pm
Dept. on Aging - 715-627-6232

LINCOLN COUNTY

- 3rd Tuesday of the month at Golden Age Nursing & Rehab., 720 E. Kings Rd., Tomahawk - 7:00 p.m.
Paula Fischer: 715-551-9408 (cell)
- 4th Thursday of the month at the Tomahawk Library - 2:00 p.m.
- 4th Tuesday of the month at Merrill Health & Human Services Bldg. - 2:00 p.m.
John Wanserski: 715-536-1466
Donna Winker: 715-536-0311

MANITOWOC COUNTY

- 2nd Thursday of the month at Holy Family, 333 Reed Ave. - 2:30 p.m.
Dorrae Fietz: 920-320-8606
- Last Wednesday of the month at Manitowoc Healthcare Ctr., 2021 South Alverno Rd. 6:30 p.m.
Jan Lettenberger: 920-683-4100
Ann Bonde: 920-683-2735

MARATHON COUNTY

- 4th Thursday of the month - 5:30 p.m.
Good Shepard Church in Wausau
Karen Kwitek: 715-355-0812
- 3rd Tuesday of the month - 3:30 p.m. and
- 4th Monday of the month - 2:00 p.m.
Marathon County Adult Day Services, 1000 Lakeview Dr., Wausau
Mary Roberts: 715-261-6070

MARINETTE COUNTY

- 2nd Tuesday of the month at Luther Manor, 831 Pine Beach Rd., Marinette - 6:00 p.m.
Geri Draz or Denise Delgoffe: 715-732-0155
- 3rd Wednesday of the month at Marinette Senior Ctr., 1803 Ludington - 10:00 a.m.
Mary Jo Ruleau: 800-990-4242
- 4th Wednesday of the month at Marinette Co. Elderly Services, Hwy 141, Crivitz - 10:00 a.m.
Jenny Staidl: 800-990-4242
- 3rd Monday of the month at Maryhill Manor, 501 Madison Ave., Niagara - 6:00 p.m.
Bob Sauld: 800-990-4242

MARQUETTE COUNTY

- General Support Group
- 2nd Tuesday of the month at St. John the Baptist Church, 277 East Montello St., Montello 6:30 p.m.
For info - *Nancy Charles: 800-854-5376*

MENOMINEE COUNTY

- 2nd Tuesday of the month at the Keshena Sr. Center, Hw. 47 & Hwy. 55, Keshena - 5 p.m.
Michelle Hoffman: 715-799-5240

MONROE COUNTY

- 3rd Tuesday of the month at Rolling Hills, 14345 Co. Hwy. B - 6:00 p.m., Sparta
Christine Snowberry: 608-269-8800
- 4th Tuesday of the month at Morrow Memorial Home, Parkview Apts. Recreation Room, 315 S. Spring St., Sparta - 1:30 p.m.
Kari Arch: 608-269-3168

OCONTO COUNTY

- 1st Monday of the month at Caring Tree Adult Day Center, 512 Caldwell Avel, Oconto Falls - 6:00 p.m. *Lynn Meyer: 920-846-3444 X1436*

ONEIDA COUNTY

- 3rd Thursday of the month at 203 Schiek Plaza, Rhinelander - 1:00 p.m.
Joan Hauer: 715-356-6540
- 3rd Monday of the month at Reiter Center, Three Lakes - 1:00 p.m.
Barb Bauknecht: 715-546-3538
Dorothy Harding: 715-546-3022
- 1st Wednesday of the month at K-Care, Lake Tomahawk - 5:00 p.m.
Kim Leigh Koenig Price: 715-356-2911
- 1st Wednesday of the month at Dr. Kate Convalescent Ctr., Woodruff - 1:30 p.m.
Joan Hauer: 715-356-6540

OUTAGAMIE COUNTY

- 3rd Tuesday of the month at Liberty Hall, 800 Eisenhower, Kimberly - 6:00 p.m.
Sandy Spangle: 920-739-4466

PIERCE COUNTY

- 2nd Friday of the month at Wellhaven Apts., 119 Union St., River Falls - 9:30 a.m.
Nancy Sailer: 800-372-2333
Donna Miller: 715-425-6588

- Betty Rossiter: 715-772-4432 (Spring Valley)*
If interested, call for date and time.

POLK COUNTY

- Last Tuesday of the month at Polk Co. Office Bldg., 100 Polk Plaza, Balsam Lake - 1:00 p.m.
Diane Voltz: 715-485-8413, Christi Hendricks: 715-268-7107

PORTAGE COUNTY

- 2nd Thursday of the month at Lincoln Center, Stevens Point 5:30 p.m. - Alzheimer's Group
Dana Cyra: 715-346-1401
- Last Wednesday of the month - Family Caregiver Support Group at Lincoln Center, Stevens Point - 4:00 p.m. 715-346-1401

PRICE COUNTY

- 3rd Thursday of the month at Christ the Servant Lutheran Church, Park Falls - 5:00 p.m. - "Brown Bag"
- 3rd Thursday of the month at Pleasant View Nursing Home - 1:30 p.m.
Barbara Lofthus: 715-339-3943

RUSK COUNTY

- 2nd Thursday of the month at Ladysmith Senior Center, 825 E. 3rd St., Ladysmith, - 1:30 p.m.
Deb Klund: 715-532-2299

SAWYER COUNTY

- 2nd Tuesday of the month at Alzheimer's office, 15618 Windrose Lane, #100, Hayward
Call: 715-934-2222

ST. CROIX COUNTY

- 1st Tuesday of the month at The Deerfield, 1127 W. 8th, New Richmond - 1:00 p.m.
Nancy Sailer: 715-381-4364

SHAWANO COUNTY

- 2nd Thursday of the month at Shawano Public Library, 128 S. Sawyer - 1:30 p.m.
Marjorie Papendorf: 715-526-1995
Keith Finuf: 715-526-6660
- 4th Monday of the month at Shawano Public Library, 128 S. Sawyer, Shawano - 5:30 p.m.
Marjorie Papendorf: 715-526-1995
Keith Finuf: 715-526-6660

TAYLOR COUNTY

- 4th Monday of the month at Memorial Health Ctr. - 1:30 p.m. *Diane Niggemann and Judi Fillmore: 715-748-1491*
- 3rd Thursday of the month at Rib Lake Health Center - 2:00 p.m.
Tiffany Annala: 715-427-5291

TREMPEALEAU COUNTY

- 2nd Wednesday of the month at Franciscan Skemp, 464 S. St. Joseph Arcadia - 4:00 p.m.
Penny Paulson: 608-323-4374
- 1st Tuesday of the month at Mount Calvary Lutheran Church, Trempealeau - 4:30 p.m.
Cyndi Schultz: 608-323-7484
Lori Bagniewski: 800-272-3900

VERNON COUNTY

- 4th Monday of the month at Bethel Home, 614 S. Rock, Viroqua - 1:00 p.m.
Tracy Lampman: 608-637-2171

VILAS COUNTY

- 2nd Monday of the month at Prince of Peace Lutheran Church, Eagle River - 1:00 p.m.
Kathie Wick: 715-479-6717
- 1st Monday of the month at Aspirus Lillian Kerr Healthcare Center, Phelps 1:00 p.m.
Audrey Rabe: 715-545-3317

WASHBURN COUNTY

- 2nd Monday of the month at Terrace Living Center, Shell Lake - 9:30 a.m.
Call: 715-934-2222

- Spooner** - Call Alzheimer's Association

WAUPACA COUNTY

- 3rd Tuesday of the month at WI Veteran's Home, King - 1:30 p.m.
Beth Boehleinor / Deb Passehl: 715-258-1499
- General Support Group
- 2nd Wednesday of the month at Little Wolf Town Hall, E5325 Cty. Rd. N., Manawa - 4:30 p.m.
Peggy: 715-258-6275

- General Support Group
New London - Call *Kathy Rusch: 920-982-5354*

WAUSHARA COUNTY

- 2nd Tuesday of the month at Wautoma Courthouse Conf. Room - 1:30 p.m.
Sheila Koca: 920-787-041

WINNEBAGO COUNTY

- 2nd Monday of the month at Valley VNA, 201 E. Bell, Neenah - 6:00 p.m.
Angie Mashuta: 920-960-4866
- 1st Thursday of the month at Lutheran Homes, 225 N. Eagle, Oshkosh - 1:30 p.m.
Kim Bauer: 920-232-5205

Highlights

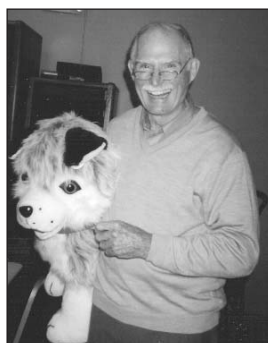
Dining and Dancing: Memories for a Lifetime

The 4th Annual May Day Memories and Melodies benefit dinner/dance will be held at the Holiday Inn Express in Rhinelander on April 29. The night begins at 4 pm with a social hour, dinner follows at 6 pm and dancing to the 10-piece Gary Kuckenbecker Old Lager Orchestra is featured from 7:30 – 10:30 pm.

The May Day Raffle drawing takes place at 9 pm and lucky winners will walk away with a framed, autographed Brett Favre jersey; a week's vacation at Tamarack Lake Lodge, a queen size handmade quilt and \$500 cash. Tickets are on sale now for \$1.00 each or 6 for \$5.00. Dinner and dance tickets are \$30 each or 2 for \$55. All tickets are available by calling 715-362-7779.

May Day Memories and Melodies benefits the work of the Alzheimer's Association in Price, Lincoln, Langlade, Oneida, Vilas, Forest and Florence counties. All are encouraged to join us for this festive evening.

It's All About Caring & Remembering



Each November the Alzheimer's Association remembers those affected by Alzheimer's disease. Retired Dr. Joe Dean proudly displays the large stuffed animal he won at the Candlelight Vigil held at the Rhinelander Senior Center on November 12, 2005. Many gathered to light candles in tribute to loved ones and to hear Dr. Dean and others share their personal testimonies.

A special thanks to the General Federation of Woman's Clubs-Rhinelander Woman's Club for their \$500 gift to support the Candlelight Vigil and to the Oneida Senior Center for hosting the event. The Alzheimer's Association appreciates the support and caring as events like this are carried out throughout the Greater WI Chapter. Together we care and remember.

2nd Annual *Spring Gala* in La Crosse

Thursday, April 27, 2006
5:30-8:00 p.m.

Piggy's Restaurant is our host site for this dinner celebration benefiting the Alzheimer's Association. The evening begins with a social hour featuring musical harp selections by Sr. Malinda Gerke. Guest speakers following dinner will share the highlights of the Associations past 25 years in leading the fight against Alzheimer's disease. The evening concludes with our Spring Gala Raffle drawing. Prizes include an Action 2 Lift Recliner valued at \$1200 donated by Degan Berglund; \$1,000 worth of gas donated by Kwik Trip and a One-Year Membership to the La Crosse Fitness Center valued at \$657 compliments of the La Crosse Fitness Center. Other smaller prizes complete the raffle. Raffle tickets are available now at 6 for \$5 or \$1.00 each. Spring Gala tickets are also available at \$40.00 per person. All proceeds support services provided to those with Alzheimer's and their families in the Coulee Region. Space is limited and dinner tickets must be purchased in advance. To reserve your seat and/or to purchase raffle tickets, please contact Lori Bagniewski at 608-784-5011 or e-mail lori.bagniewski@alz.org.



The La Crosse Office is Relocating

The Alzheimer's Association La Crosse Outreach Office is looking forward to partnering with St. Luke's United Methodist Church starting March 1st. Volunteers are needed to help move office supplies to our new address at 1022 Caledonia Street, La Crosse. This new location offers increased accessibility including off-street parking. Our present phone and fax number will remain the same. Plan to stop by and see our new office during our Open House set for April 6th from 3:30 pm-6 pm. Our 'Hogs and Kisses' candidates will make a special appearance at this Open House. Ballots will be available!

What is Hogs and Kisses? This fundraiser invites community members to purchase a ballot and vote for one lucky person to kiss a pig named "Ruby" on April 8, 2006. The entire community is on hand to see the 'kiss!' For more information on Hogs and Kisses, please contact Kathy Lucey, volunteer, at 608-788-6759.

Public Policy

'Medicare Part D: Answers to Common Questions

As of January 1, Medicare offers a new prescription drug benefit called Medicare Part D. Anyone receiving Medicare health care benefits is eligible. Enrollment is through May 15, 2006. Here are some special considerations to think about when choosing a Medicare drug plan for persons with Alzheimer's disease.

Q. Will the Medicare drug plans cover Alzheimer drugs?

A. Yes. Through the Alzheimer's Association's advocacy efforts, all Medicare drug plans are required to cover and have at least two cholinesterase inhibitors and Memantine on their formularies (list of drugs the plan covers). Each plan will decide what the co-payment amount is for each drug. Plans are allowed to charge different amounts for different drugs. Consumers will need to check with each plan to find out the specific amount of the co-payment for specific drugs.

Q. Is it true that Medicare will not pay for Xanax, Valium, Ativan and other benzodiazepines?

A. Yes. Standard or basic Medicare drug plans are forbidden by law from paying for benzodiazepines, such as Xanax, Valium and Ativan. In addition, Medicare will not pay for barbiturates (such as Phenobarbital or Nembutal), which are often used for sedation or to control seizures. State Medicaid programs and state pharmacy assistance programs may still pay for them. In addition, Medicare drug plans can offer supplemental or additional benefits beyond the standard Medicare package for an additional premium. These "enhanced" plans can cover benzodiazepines, barbiturates or

other medications not covered by Medicare.

Q. Will Medicare drug plans cover anti-depressants and anti-anxiety drugs which are often prescribed to Alzheimer beneficiaries?

A. Yes. Medicare plans MUST cover "all or substantially all" anti-depressants (such as Celexa and Zoloft), anti-psychotics (such as Abilify, Zyprexa, Seroquel and Risperdal), and anti-convulsants (such as Tegretol and Depakote), which many Medicare beneficiaries with Alzheimer's disease need.

Q. Can a Medicare drug plan put restrictions on access to drugs even if the drugs are on the formulary?

A. Yes. The Medicare drug plans can require that individuals get prior approval from the plan for specific drugs before the plan will pay for it. This is called "prior authorization." In addition, plans can require that an individual try a different, less expensive drug before agreeing to pay for the one originally prescribed by the doctor. This is often called "step therapy" or "fail first." However, an individual can request that step therapy or fail first not be required if the individual or the treating doctor can prove that there would be adverse effects or the prescribed drug would be more effective.

Q. If my mother has Alzheimer's disease and does not have the capacity to sign up for a plan, who can do it for her?

A. Medicare rules allow an individual who has legal authority under state law to act on behalf of the beneficiary (your mother) to enroll or disenroll her from a Medicare drug plan. Depending on the state law where

your mother lives, this may include attorneys-in-fact or agents who have authority under a durable power of attorney document and guardians appointed by the court.

Q. My father has Alzheimer's disease, takes several medications and is stable. If one or more of his current drugs are not on his drug plan's formulary, is there anything he can do to get the drugs paid for by his plan?

A. Yes. Your father, his authorized representative or his treating physician can ask the plan to cover the non-formulary drug for him. This request is called an "exception" and generally requires a physician's statement in support of the request. You can get specific information about the exceptions process from the drug plan organization.

More assistance can be found online at the Coalition of Wisconsin Aging Groups (CWAG) special website at www.wismedrx.org, or call them at 1-800-488-2596 to get in touch with a benefit specialist in your county.



Caregiver's Corner



Cyndi Schultz is a caregiver for her mom with dementia, and a dedicated volunteer for the Alzheimer's Association in the La Crosse/Arcadia area.

(Left) Cyndi Schultz and her mother, Glenice.

Wow! I have been a caregiver for most of my life. I am the oldest of seven children. My mother told me that from the time I was about 3 years old I was already watching the babies. I married at age 19, and when the children had graduated I decided I could no longer sit at home. I decided to see if the local nursing home needed anyone. The Activity Director grabbed me with open arms.

I admit I was terrified. A sweet man named "Fritz" came to me smiling asking me to take him home. I said I wanted to go home too! I soon learned that this sweet man had Alzheimer's disease. He taught me so many things about patience and communication. Eventually becoming the Activity Director, I stayed in that nursing home for 13 years.

I wanted to learn as much as I could about Alzheimer's disease, and attended workshops, conferences and programs. Eventually, I was the one that did some of the orientation programs about Alzheimer's for staff. In 1991, I saw my first Memory Walk display in the mall and decided that I would walk. I ended up coordinating the first satellite walk held in Trempealeau County, and stayed with it for 10 years, raising more than \$100,000 with the help of so many.

Around 1994 my mother, Glenice, started acting unlike herself. Her father, who invented tutti fruiti ice cream at the North American Creamery died when he was just 58. He had gradually begun to forget the ingredients and then started getting lost in his own neighborhood. My mother's sister also had Alzheimer's disease.

My mother and I talked often. My mom, who was quite a history buff, spent almost an entire day with my husband recording on video her memories about family history going back to the late 1700's. Later, as we watched the video, Mom said, "Do you see how often I am saying I can't remember?" Mom started to repeat things, and on occasion became quickly very angry and even tried to hit me. She cried and cried. Mom hardly ever cried before.

Finally, my mom let me take her to the doctor. She bolted out the door before the doctor was even done.

Not living in the same city, I was a long distance caregiver for many years. We had many concerns about her safety. To alleviate some of this, she attended an adult day program. One day my stepfather called and said he could not care for her anymore. This started our search for a nursing home. Thankfully, there was a place for her here in Arcadia. Here she could be close to me as well.

My mother has been here now for almost two years. She has started to become more anxious and angry, and has sometimes threatened the staff and even visitors. Recently, she spent 5 days in a psychiatric facility, and when she came back she was a changed person, but it was only a few days after her return to the nursing home and she could no longer find her own bathroom. She is now completely dependent upon the nursing home staff for basic skills like eating and walking. She often reaches out for things that are not there.

This has been a devastating process. I want to stress that my mother is in a wonderful nursing home and I will continue to recommend it. The staff is caring and tries to do the best they can, but there must be more education for nursing home and hospital staff.

From my time volunteering for the Alzheimer's Association, I know that there is so much information out there, and they can help with this. If you are a nursing home employee, ask, beg and plead that the staff be educated. Call the Alzheimer's Association for education and support so you can make your care facility the best place for people with Alzheimer's disease and related dementia to live.

Submitted by Cyndi Schultz, family care partner, support group facilitator and volunteer for the Alzheimer's Association, La Crosse Outreach Office. The Alzheimer's Association commends Cyndi for her thoughtful care of her mom and others affected by Alzheimer's disease and related dementias.

ARE THE COSTS OF CARING FOR A PERSON WITH ALZHEIMER'S DISEASE TAX DEDUCTIBLE?

The Alzheimer's Association has information about what aspects of care may be allowable as tax deductions for caregivers of persons with dementia. It should be noted that tax laws can be very complex and may change from year to year, and that the information provided is not intended as tax advice, but rather, may be used as a guide for your tax preparer. Please call the Alzheimer's Association at 1-800-272-3900 for this important information.

More to Share

20th Annual State Conference on Alzheimer's Disease and Related Disorders Comes to Green Bay!

May 7 – 9, 2006
 KI Convention Center – Regency Suites
 Green Bay, WI

The Alzheimer's Association Wisconsin Chapter Network is pleased to announce its 20th Annual State Conference set for May 7 – 9, 2006, in Green Bay. The Wisconsin conference is one of the largest statewide conferences in the United States devoted to Alzheimer's disease and related dementia. The 2006 conference will feature over 40 workshops, national keynote speakers and over 50 exhibits and displays. Nearly 900 family and professional care providers will be in attendance.

A Sunday Pre-Conference Intensive explores Palliative Care Efforts in Alzheimer's Excellence coordinated by Dr. Abhilash K. Desai of ThedaCare Behavioral Health in Appleton. Featured keynote speakers include:

- LeAnn Thieman – author of *Chicken Soup for the Caregiver's Soul*
- Mark Therrien – consultant, trainer and educator
- Zaven Khachaturian, Ph.D. – Senior Medical and Scientific Advisor to the Alzheimer's Association
- Joann Koenig Coste – author of *"Learning to Speak Alzheimer's"*

Conference brochures will be mailed February 1. For complete information on the conference, visit the conference website – www.alzwi.org to download the conference brochure. Scholarship and registration information is available on this site as well. For additional information call the conference planner at 715-344-2929.

Matching Gift Programs Make Your Donation Go Further

Your gift to the Alzheimer's Association of Greater Wisconsin goes to support programs and services which we provide to families throughout the region.

If your or your spouse's company participates in a matching gift program your donation can be doubled, or in some cases, tripled!

Many local businesses including Wisconsin Public Service, US Bank, Starbucks, Thrivent, Kimberly Clark, Verizon, IBM, General Electric and others have programs which match employee contributions dollar-for-dollar. In most cases, obtaining a matching gift is as simple as filling out a form. Learn more about your company's program by checking with your personnel or HR office.



It's a fact: 6 out of 10 people with Alzheimer's disease will wander.



Safe Return is a nationwide identification and support program. Safe Return provides assistance 24 hours a day, 365 days a year, whether a person becomes lost locally or far from home.

For safety and peace of mind, enroll your loved one in Safe Return today.

Contact us at 1.800.272.3900
www.alz.org or www.alzgw.org



- Greater Wisconsin Chapter
- Ashland La Crosse
- Eau Claire Rhinelander
- Fox Valley Superior
- Green Bay Wausau
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Greater Wisconsin**

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Message from the Executive Director



Mary Bouche

When the Alzheimer's Association was founded in 1980, Alzheimer's disease was rarely diagnosed, and no treatments or services were available. Over next 25 years, the Alzheimer's Association has become the world leader in Alzheimer's research and support. We have brought together the best scientists, most generous philanthropists and dedicated volunteers and staff to provide reliable information; create support programs and services; increase resources for research; and influence changes in public policy.

The price of Alzheimer's is astounding. Affecting an estimated 4.5 million individuals and 25 million families, Alzheimer's disease costs our country more than \$100 billion annually. The Alzheimer's Association is leading the movement to make brain disease a public health priority in Wisconsin and nationwide.

The Greater Wisconsin Chapter is here for families and for those suffering from Alzheimer's and other related dementia in our 53-county service area. Our core services --- Care Consultation, Information & Referral (Helpline), Education, Support Groups and Safe Return are available to everyone.

As I recently put the final touches on our annual report, the following numbers truly tell our story. Over the past year, we have touched the lives of over 33,000 people in our service area. This breaks down across our core services as follows:

- 5,166 Helpline contacts in one year
- 1,569 Care Consultations with families and persons with Alzheimer's disease
- 727 Educational programs provided with over 20,000 persons in attendance
- 1,023 Support Group meetings serving over 6,000 persons
- 1,496 Safe Return registrants

In the past 15 years, 95 percent of what we know today about the disease has been uncovered. We continue to work on creating a world without Alzheimer's disease while optimizing the quality of life for individuals and their families.

Thanks for joining in our efforts.

Mary B. Bouche, Executive Director

**Welcome to Our Newest
Staff Members!**



Brook Jaeger
Ashland Outreach Office



Joan Litwitz
Hayward Outreach Office



Natasha Martens
Fox Valley Outreach Office



(left) Payne Petrich
Superior Outreach Office



(right) Julie St. Pierre
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