Each year cyclists ride mile after mile to find a cause and cure for MS by participating in the MS Bike Ride. This fun, family event has something for both the novice and experienced cyclists. Take a leisurely ride and participate in our 25 mile route, or take up the challenge to ride the full century (100 miles).

Join us on Saturday, August 11, 2007 as we pedal to end the devastating effects of MS. The beautiful city of Bloomington hosts the start and finish for the 2007 MS Bike Ride. Bloomington and its surrounding towns provide the perfect backdrop for a scenic ride through beautiful rolling hills and breath-taking vistas. The MS Bike Ride is a fully supported event, with numerous rest stops along the routes. Recruit your friends to ride with you, the more the merrier.

Register today by visiting www.nationalmssociety.org/ini or call 1-800-FIGHT-MS, option 2. There is a $35 registration fee. Don’t forget to raise the $100 minimum pledge to help fund our much needed programs and services. Call Melissa at 1-800-FIGHT-MS, option 2 or email, mpence@msindiana.org, for helpful fundraising tips.

Not a cyclist or don’t even own a bike? That’s ok. Support your family members and friends by volunteering for the event. Enjoy the entertainment and enthusiastic volunteers as they rally together to support our cyclists.
It has been a true pleasure over the past few years to get to know Fred and Josh Halpern. They are kind, generous and supportive friends of the Chapter. They continually amaze us, and we are honored to share their story here today.

In this bustling and bustling world, finding committed, valuable supporters in the MS movement is often like finding a diamond in the rough. Well, there’s no doubt that we have found two sparkling gems in Fred and Josh Halpern of Albert’s Diamond Jewelers in Schererville, Indiana.

Fred has owned and operated Albert’s since 1960 and developed the business to be the number one jewelry store in northwest Indiana. Fred’s son, Josh, has taken on the role of vice president and has contributed even more to its recent success.

The Halpern family has always been very involved in local community organizations, and the National MS Society, Indiana State Chapter, is fortunate to be their main focus. Albert’s Diamond Jewelers has been a sponsor for all local special events, including the MS Walk and Women Against MS luncheon. However, their support goes way past sponsorship. Fred and Josh have formed a team for the MS Walk; they have given personal donations to the events, they led a Leadership Campaign, they raise funds in the store throughout the year during sales or for Fred’s marathon runs, they hold an annual auction for MS, and Fred has even participated in the MS Bike Ride. Over the years, Albert’s Diamond Jewelers and the Halpern family have contributed $160,014 to the Indiana State Chapter! Their continued support helps us to reach over 7,100 clients with MS in the state and to find a cure for this disease. They have definitely joined the movement and are doing something about MS now.

Thank you Albert’s Diamond Jewelers and Fred and Josh Halpern! Always asking, “What more can we do?” Fred and Josh are living the mission to end the devastating effects of MS. If you are motivated by their efforts, they challenge you to JOIN THE MOVEMENT! – Tiffany Bogard

Volunteer Spotlight

Fred and Josh Halpern at the Northwest Indiana MS Walk

RESOURCES

INDIANA STATE CHAPTER’S EMPLOYER OF THE YEAR

Each year the NAMS presents its prestigious national Employer of the Year Award. The award recognizes both large and small employers who support the Americans with Disabilities Act, who have taken actions to increase or enhance employment opportunities for an individual with MS and other disabilities, and who serve as a role model in advancing disability rights.

Our Chapter is proud to have Connect2Help as this year’s national award recipient. Connect2Help is dedicated to facilitating connections in Indiana between people who need human services and those who provide them. As an employer, Connect2Help demonstrates its commitment to equal opportunity and affirmative action in its leadership, its operations, its handbooks and its work environment. It strives to educate all employees, colleagues and the community about valuing employees, involving employees as leaders in the workforce, and making a positive contribution to our community. Congratulations Connect2Help!

Call now for information on how to nominate your employer for this prestigious award. Contact Jean Kraus at 1-800-FIGHT-MS, option 2. Nominations will be due in early August; look for more information on our website at www.nationalmssociety.org/in

MS TECHNOLOGY COLLABORATIVE: Helping People with MS Connect through Accessible Technology

In the past decade, many people with multiple sclerosis (MS) have had the opportunity to benefit from advancements in MS treatments and some have adapted their lifestyles through the use of sophisticated technologies and social networking. Each approach has independently helped people with MS lead healthier and more fulfilling lives, but in this fast-paced digital age, more can be done to help ensure that people with MS maintain their health and independence; have support for their life choices; and stay connected with their families, friends, and communities.

To that end, leaders from three specialty areas – pharmaceutical, technology, and patient advocacy – have come together, each armed with a particular understanding of MS, to have a greater impact for the MS community than any of the three could have accomplished alone.

Through a landmark alliance, known as the MS Technology Collaborative, the following organizations are striving to better understand the needs of people living with MS and to provide access to the technology and resources they need to stay connected to their communities and the world:

- Bayer Healthcare Pharmaceuticals, Inc. (formerly Berlex): a pharmaceutical company that has been at the forefront of MS therapy development, starting with the introduction of the very first therapy for relapsing remitting MS and continuing with the innovative treatments in development today

- Microsoft: A global technology leader

- National Multiple Sclerosis Society: The world’s largest MS research, service, and advocacy organization

Over the next year, the MS Technology Collaborative will launch the following activities:

MyMSMyWay.com: A robust, online portal that will help provide the MS community with existing resources and information, including basic tips on selecting the appropriate technology and making technology easier to use. Users also will be able to sign up through the Website to take part in the MS Technology Collaborative’s landmark survey.

Survey: A first-of-its-kind survey that will help the MS Technology Collaborative better understand the needs of people with MS – including how they manage their condition, the impact MS has on their lives and families, their challenges, concerns and hopes, and most important, the role technology plays in their lives. The survey will provide insights into how people with MS use different technologies at each step of their disease in their personal and professional lives, and how these technological needs change over time.

Web-based Program: Based on the survey results, the MS Technology Collaborative will create a personalized and interactive Web-based program for people living with MS. This easy-to-use resource will help inform people with MS – whose individual needs often vary – as they make decisions about options that can help improve day-to-day life including treatment alternatives and help sticking with treatments, as well as specialized technology options to help manage many aspects of life with MS and staying connected to people and resources that provide support and vital information. The independent website, the MS Technology Collaborative’s flagship deliverable, and will combine key elements from each of the Collaborative participants.

The Web-based program will link to content-rich search tools that are already available, rather than recreate new ones that need to be regularly updated.

Individuals interested in participating in this landmark survey or those wanting periodic program updates can register for additional information at www.MyMSMyWay.com.

Volunteer Spotlight

Indiana State Chapter’s Employer of the Year

L-R Sara Lyn Thompson, Brenda Schall (NAMS National Staff), Lynn Engel (CEO Connect2Help), Tiffany Bogard (Chapter President)

Volunteer Spotlight

Indiana State Chapter’s Employer of the Year

L-R Sara Lyn Thompson, Brenda Schall (NAMS National Staff), Lynn Engel (CEO Connect2Help), Tiffany Bogard (Chapter President)
These groups and locations are open to everyone interested in sharing thoughts and feelings about multiple sclerosis in an open, positive atmosphere, how it affects their lives and those around them, and how to manage a productive and meaningful existence despite the disease.

Call the numbers below for more information.

**ANDERSON**
Kathy Glass 765-648-4101
3rd Thursday of each month
(meetings will start in January 2007)
7pm - Saint John’s Medical Center, Cafeteria

**ANGOLA**
Mark & Jennifer Smith 260-495-7238
4th Monday of each month
7pm - Angola Assembly of God

**AUBURN/DEKALB COUNTY**
Richard Thornton 260-493-7873
Neal Esselburn 260-637-3820
128nealee_ms1@verizon.net
3rd Monday of each month
7 pm - DeKalb Memorial Hospital, Medical Arts Building, Room 3

**CALUMET CITY, IL**
Tammy Aprati 219-922-1859
3rd Monday of each month
7 pm - Community Room, Calumet City Library

**CARMEL**
Kent Howard 260-434-0322
Barb Moser 260-622-4387
7 p.m.- Turnstone
3rd Tuesday of each month
7 p.m.- Elkhart Neurology
1st Wednesday and 1st Thursday of each month
Lisa Sweet 574-831-5515

**DECATUR**
Karin Inkoff-Holman 317-876-0126
ms Ladies Dinner Group

**FORT WAYNE - CENTRAL**
Kent Howard 260-434-0322
Neal Esselburn 260-637-3820
128nealee_ms1@verizon.net
3rd Monday of each month
7 pm - DeKalb Memorial Hospital, Medical Arts Building, Room 3

**HANCOCK COUNTY**
Sharon & Joseph Lime 317-861-5020
s Lime@bh.globalnet or
cedocts358@bhglobalnet
3rd Thursday of each month
7:30-8:30 p.m. - Park Chapel
Christian Church

**HARRISON COUNTY**
Shannon Juliott 812-347-2370
2nd Tuesday of each month
6:30 p.m. EST - YMCA, Corydon, IN

**HENRICKS**
Suzanne Simmons c955@asq.com
Traci Miller 317-831-5761
traci62@aol.com
Carol Play 317-836-0947
linkbuddy1022@yahoo.com
2nd Tuesday of each month
7:30-8:30 p.m. - Hendricks Regional Health, Avon

**HUNTINGTON**
Randy Bellamy 260-466-2366
BELLAMY11647650@yahoo.com
4th Tuesday of each month
(except June - August)
6:30 p.m. - Parkview Huntington Hospital

**INDIANAPOLIS - BEECH GROVE**
Rose Rosswell rbowell@hotmail.com
1st Tuesday of each month
6:30 p.m. - Sacred Heart Parish Hall

**INDIANAPOLIS - NORTH**
Anne Rosswell 317-257-3273
1st Saturday of each month
(Sepetember - June)
10 a.m. - New Life Community Church

**INDIANAPOLIS - EAST**
Janet Smith 317-894-2657
1st Tuesday of each month
7 p.m. - Cumberland Christian Church

**JOHNSON COUNTY**
Elaine Powers epowers2009@aol.com
Alison Brunner 317-535-0301
1st Monday of each month
6:30-7:30 p.m. - Clark Pleasant Public Library, 530 Tracy Road, New Whiteland

**LAFAYETTE**
Darlene Stevenson 765-523-3224
dhurley625@aol.com
1st Wednesday of each month
(except January and July)
6:30-8:30 p.m. - Rosewell Village

**LAPORTE**
Chris Kiser 219-879-6865
kisserc19@adnet.com
2nd Wednesday of each month
6:00-7:00 p.m. LaPorte Hospital Crossings

**LEBANON**
Connie Hinsenkamp 812-234-1544
3rd Tuesday of each month
7-8:30 p.m. - Park Chapel
Christian Church

**MADISON COUNTY**
Angie Knight 765-998-7392
angieknight@niu.edu
1st Monday of each month
6 p.m. - Comfort Suites
3rd Thursday of each month
1 p.m. - Various locations

**MERRILLVILLE**
Mike and Glloria Sullivan 219-924-5167
maul8899@outlook.com
Tracy Szczudlak 219-345-2170
Kim Kusza 219-996-5122
kimberlykuzmar@yahoo.com
3rd Friday of each month
11:30 a.m. - 12:30 p.m. Neuroscience Building Conference Room, 200 East 89th Ave.,

**MUNCIE**
Pat Stonebraker 765-284-1650
1st Monday of each month
7 p.m.- Health South Rehabilitation Hospital

**MERRILLVILLE**
Debbie Manon 219-912-1645
1st Tuesday of each month
6:30 - 8:30 p.m. - Porter County Public Library

**MUNCIE**
Theresa McCord 765-855-3402
3rd Monday of each month
11:30a.m. -12:30 p.m. Neuroscience Building Conference Room, 200 East 89th Ave.,

**PORTAGE *NEW***
Cheri Furgason 317-773-6718
1st Tuesday of each month
6:30 - 8:30 p.m. - Riverview Rehabilitation Center

**RICHMOND**
Tracie McCard tmcord@emailink.net
1st Wednesday of each month
6:30-7:30 p.m. - Centerstone Senior Center

**RICHMOND**
Debi Mann 219-912-1645
dman@verizon.net
3rd Tuesday of each month
6:30 - 8:30 p.m. - Porter County Public Library

**SAINT JOSEPH COUNTY**
Debbie Manon 219-912-1645
dman@verizon.net
3rd Tuesday of each month
6:30 - 8:30 p.m. - Mishawaka Public Library, downtown Mishawaka

**SAN PIERRE (STARKE COUNTY)**
Kathy Ward 574-772-2490
765-272-8752
3rd Monday of each month
7 p.m. - Our Lady of Holy Cross Nursing Home

**TERRE HAUTE**
Connie Hinsenkamp 812-234-1544
3rd Tuesday of each month
7 p.m. - Health South Rehabilitation Hospital

**VALPARAISO**
Carpathians Group also offered.
7-8:30 p.m. - Park Chapel
Christian Church

**WESTFIELD**
Michelle Koevar 317-442-3372
Suzanne Summers 765-855-3402
3rd Thursday of each month
7-8:30 p.m. - Parkview Huntington Hospital

**WICHITA FALLS**
Connie Hinsenkamp 812-234-1544
3rd Tuesday of each month
7-8:30 p.m. - Parkview Huntington Hospital

**WILLOWDALE**
Connie Hinsenkamp 812-234-1544
3rd Tuesday of each month
7-8:30 p.m. - Parkview Huntington Hospital

**WYOMING**
Connie Hinsenkamp 812-234-1544
3rd Tuesday of each month
7-8:30 p.m. - Parkview Huntington Hospital

These efforts, along with your voice through our lively Action Alert Network, are making strides to bring us closer to a world free of MS. Call 1-800-FIGHT-MS, option 2 to make your voice heard!

JOIN THE MOVEMENT.

**PROGRAMS**
Over 300 MS Activists nationwide visited Capitol Hill this year to advocate on behalf of people with multiple sclerosis. Four chapter delegates represented Indiana – Staff members Tiffany Bogard and Jean Kraus, and volunteers Russ and Nancy Adams from Valparaiso, IN. The team completed eighteen legislative visits to discuss four key issues. They included requesting support for a new MS-research funding source through the Department of Defense, support for legislation that allows the FDA to approve applications for generic versions of biotech drugs, support for legislation that lifts the “in-home” restriction for Medicare coverage of mobility devices, and support for Stem Cell Research Enhancement Act.

These efforts, along with your voice through our lively Action Alert Network, are making strides to bring us closer to a world free of MS. Call 1-800-FIGHT-MS, option 2 to make your voice heard!

JOIN THE MOVEMENT.
**Calling all Champions!**

The National MS Society is a driving force of MS research, relentlessly pursuing prevention, treatment, and a cure.

How can you help? The Indiana Chapter is looking for enthusiastic volunteers to join our Research Advocate (RA) team. These Advocates are champions of the Society’s research mission and serve to help chapter staff and other volunteers highlight MS research activities. Through research, written articles, public speaking and a myriad of other activities, RAs are key players in the Chapter’s research initiatives. Call Jean Reau at 1-800-FIGHT-MS, option 2, if you are interested in volunteering in this role. We need you!

**MS Trials Alert Single-Dose Experimental IV Drug “RTL1000” Recruiting MS Patients at Five Sites Nationwide**

This study is to evaluate the safety profile of a single intravenous dose of RTL1000, and to determine the maximum tolerated dose of RTL1000 that can be given as a single dose. To be considered for participation in the 3-month study, individuals must be 18-65 years of age with definite relapsing-remitting MS, or secondary-progressive MS and be able to walk at least 66 feet. (may use an assistive device such as a cane or walker). There are other specific inclusion criteria. Please contact Lee Hayward at Indiana University, Indianapolis, IN 317-278-7293 for more information.

**Efficacy and Safety of Fingolimod (FTY720) in Patients With Relapsing-Remitting Multiple Sclerosis**

This study will assess safety, tolerability and efficacy of two doses of oral fingolimod compared to placebo on efficacy parameters in patients with relapsing-remitting multiple sclerosis (RRMS). Inclusion Criteria: Male and female patients between ages 18-55 with a diagnosis of multiple sclerosis; patients with a relapsing-remitting disease course, patients with EDSS score of 0-5.5 [must be able to walk at least 328 feet without using an assistance device such as a cane or walker]. There are additional entry criteria for this study. Contact information to email: Lee Hayward at Indiana University, Indianapolis, IN 317-278-7293 or Dr. Ajay Gupta at Fort Wayne Neurological Center, Fort Wayne, IN 260-460-3100.

**Efficacy and Safety of Fampridine SR in Patients with Multiple Sclerosis**

This study will assess the efficacy and safety of oral fampridine SR and its’ ability to improve leg strength and walking speed in patients with Multiple Sclerosis. To be considered for this study individuals must be 18-70 years of age, have a definite diagnosis of MS, and have difficulty with their walking speed however still be able to walk at least 50 feet (may use an assistive device such as a cane or walker). There are additional entry criteria for this study. Please contact Lee Hayward at Indiana University, Indianapolis, IN for more information. 317-278-7293.

**Would you like to be part of a national MS research effort?**

The National Multiple Sclerosis Society is recruiting 2,500 participants for a long-term study of people with MS across the country. Volunteers are needed from the following populations:

1. African American men and women who have MS
2. Hispanic men and women who have MS and are proficient in English
3. People, of any racial or ethnic group, diagnosed with MS after September 2006

The Sonya Slika Longitudinal Multiple Sclerosis Study, named for a woman with MS whose family is supporting the study, has followed over 2,000 people with MS for five years. The three populations listed above were underrepresented in the initial group of participants; to learn more about how MS affects their lives, we will over sample them in this phase of the study.

Early results from the Slika Study have increased our knowledge of MS, helped researchers develop more effective ways to treat MS, and enabled the National Multiple Sclerosis Society to advocate for policies that benefit people with MS. Participation involves completing telephone interviews at the beginning of the study and every six months after that. Participation is, of course, voluntary and all information collected will be kept confidential to the extent allowed by law.

If you are African American, Hispanic, or recently-diagnosed with MS, and are interested in learning more or participating in the Slika Study, please call toll-free: 1-800-305-6013.

**ARMS Annual Golf Outing and Hot Rod Show**

Calling all car enthusiasts! Don’t miss out on the first annual Shadeland Shoppes Antique Mall classic car and hot rod show on Saturday, August 11th at Shadeland Shoppes from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. This event is open to all pre 1973 cars and hot rods.

Cost is $20.00 per vehicle with all proceeds benefiting the National MS Society, Indiana State Chapter. There will also be a raffle with all earnings going towards finding a cause and cure for MS. Lunch, hot dogs and drinks will be provided.

**Toll-Free Number: 1-800-FIGHT MS**

Visit our Website at: www.nationalmssociety.org/ini

**SUMMER2007**

**FUNDRAISING**

**ANNOUNCING THE RECIPIENT FOR THE 2007 DINNER OF CHAMPIONS HOPE AWARD**

On September 5, the Indiana State Chapter will award its highest honor for humanitarian service, the Hope Award, to Jeffrey H. Smulyan, CEO of Eminis Communications Corporation. The Hope Award is given annually at the Dinner of Champions to a community leader for outstanding civic and community service. The impact of Mr. Smulyan’s humanitarian efforts extends beyond the central Indiana community and has significant national impact.

The Dinner of Champions is a signature fundraising and celebratory event of the National MS Society. The 2006 Dinner honoring David & Julie Goodrich and Jamie Broyles was attended by 300 people and raised 13% over its projected goal.

This year’s event will include a reception, banquet, awards program and silent and live auction. Individual tickets and table sponsorships are available. For more information, please contact Tiffany Bogard at 1-800-FIGHT-MS, option 2 or tbogard@msindiana.org. Don’t miss out on this momentous event.

**QUILTING FOR A CURE**

Everyone is a winner, thanks to a quilt raffle with proceeds benefiting the National Multiple Sclerosis Society. For the second year, Alice Mitchell of Owensburg, Indiana, has sewn a beautiful quilt and donated it as a raffle item.

*Chances to win the handmade quilt are $3.00 each, or 2 for $5. The winning entry will be drawn at the Christopher & Banks Wabash Valley Walk *on September 8. Deadline to enter is Sept. 1. Teams are welcome to sell chances to win and will receive credit for the amount sold. Contact Alice by e-mail with subject “MS Quilt Raffle” at aliceemitchell@blueemail.net for more information on participating in the raffle or selling entries to benefit your team.

**FORE!**

Enjoy the summer by golfing for a cure. Check out the golf outings benefiting the National MS Society.

**Hooster’s Golf Outing**

Friday, June 8th at Noble Hawk, Fort Wayne. Registration deadline May 25

Friday, July 27th in Mishawaka, location TBD. Registration deadline July 6.

**Heritage Classic Golf Outing**

Monday, August 13th at Prairie View Golf Club, Indianapolis. Visit www.heritageclassic.org or contact Rich Elliott at richelliott@premierbandag.com if you are interested in sponsoring or participating in this event.

**CLASSIC CAR AND HOT ROD SHOW**

Calling all car enthusiasts! Don’t miss out on the first annual Shadeland Shoppes Antique Mall classic car and hot rod show on Saturday, August 11th at Shadeland Shoppes from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. This event is open to all pre 1973 cars and hot rods.

Cost is $20.00 per vehicle with all proceeds benefiting the National MS Society, Indiana State Chapter. There will also be a raffle with all earnings going towards finding a cause and cure for MS. Lunch, hot dogs and drinks will be provided.

**INDIANAPOLIS**

DATE: Tuesday, June 12, 2007
TIME: Luncheon 11:30 a.m. – 1:00 p.m.
PLACE: Hilton, Indianapolis Downtown
SPEAKER: Jacqueline Michard, author of Deep End of the Ocean and The Breakdown Lane
COST: Individuals suggested minimum donation of $100, Table Sponsorships available at $1,000, $2,500 or $5,000
CONTACT: Tiffany Bogard, 1-800-FIGHT-MS option 2, or email: tbogard@msindiana.org

**VALPARAISO**

DATE: July, TBD
SPEAKER: TBD
COST: Individuals suggested donations of $75, Table Sponsorships begin at $1,000
CONTACT: Dawn Czarnik, 219-322-6772 or email: dczarnik@earthlink.net

**FORT WAYNE**

DATE: Tuesday, August 14, 2007
SPEAKER: Jordan Sigalet, goalie for the Boston Bruins
COST: Individuals suggested donation of $75, Table Sponsorships begin at $1,000
CONTACT: Cindy Betts, 260-672-8950 or email: fighterms@comcast.net

**SOUTH BEND**

DATE: Wednesday, August 15, 2007
SPEAKER: Jordan Sigalet, goalie for the Boston Bruins
COST: Individuals suggested donation of $75, Table Sponsorships begin at $1,000
CONTACT: Mindy Sparling, 574-255-2736 or email: fightsnow@yahoo.com

**EVANSVILLE**

DATE: August, TBD
SPEAKER: TBD
COST: Individuals suggested donations of $75, Table Sponsorships begin at $1,000
CONTACT: HeatherTodd, 812-401-2810 or email: fightsnow@sigecom.net

Don’t forget to visit www.nationalmssociety.org/ini, for additional information on all WAMS events.