



Lymphatic Research **MATTERS**

A Publication of the
LYMPHATIC RESEARCH FOUNDATION

Inaugural e-edition - Summer, 2009

A Note from LRF Executive Director, Jacqueline Reinhard . . .



Welcome to LRF's first e-edition of *Lymphatic Research Matters*. Thank You for being among those who have signed on to our growing e-mail list. In our attempt to 'go green' and cut our print and postage expenses, we will issue only one print Newsletter per year in 2009 and going forward. We hope our periodic e-editions will help to keep you updated . . . because there continues to be progress and good news to report in the world of lymphatic research!

We are proud to share with you two greatly informative issues of LRF's official peer-reviewed scientific journal, *Lymphatic Research and Biology (LR&B)*: LR&B's first 'Festschrift' double issue (Vol. 6, No. 3-4) was published in honor of the famed physician and medical researcher, Dr. Judah Folkman. This milestone issue contains original papers from many of the top scientists in the field of lymphatic biology. Usually available only through subscription, this special issue is available online, free to all for a limited time, through the generosity of our publisher, Mary Ann Liebert, Inc., Publishers (see article below for link).

The subsequent LR&B issue (Vol. 7, No.1) is fully dedicated to cutting edge research on lymphedema. The level of promising activity in research laboratories the world over is very encouraging! With this growing commitment to lymphatic research, it is only a matter of time before major discoveries will reveal new treatment courses for lymphatic disease patients.

We are also glad to highlight the work of Joel Armel, a lymphedema patient and an avid advocate for the needs of the lymphatic disease community. Joel is passionate about informing local legislators about the needs of lymphatic disease patients and the critical need to fund scientific and medical research of the lymphatic system. He has been a wonderful friend to LRF, and we are so grateful that he is allowing us to share his story with other LRF supporters.

I hope you will enjoy reading this first e-edition of *Lymphatic Research Matters*. We would like our e-editions to be helpful, informative and responsive to your needs and interests. Please take a moment to send an e-mail to let us know what you would like to hear about in our next issue. You will find a 'reply' link at the end of this e-newsletter. We welcome your critique, comments, and ideas.

Thank you so much for your interest in lymphatic science and your support of LRF's efforts.

With best regards,

Jacqueline Reinhard

Jacqueline Reinhard
Executive Director

P.S. Please look for our **Get Involved!** suggestions. We invite you to become partners with LRF in our many advocacy and fundraising efforts.

Research Matters

MILESTONE ISSUES OF *LYMPHATIC RESEARCH and BIOLOGY*

Lymphatic Research and Biology (LR&B), LRF's official peer-reviewed, quarterly scientific journal, issued its first ever double issue (Vol. 6, No. 3-4, 2008) in honor of famed physician and medical researcher, **Dr. Judah Folkman**. Known as 'the father of angiogenesis' for his pioneering medical research in angiogenesis and its implications in neoplastic disease, Dr. Folkman also applied these theories to lymphatic disease, and termed the application "lymphangiogenesis". He was the keynote speaker at the first LRF/National Institutes of Health co-sponsored interdisciplinary think tank conference (*The Lymphatic Continuum*, 2002); and it was his generosity and influence that helped to launch *Lymphatic Research and Biology*.

Since its first issue in early 2003, *Lymphatic Research and Biology* has offered the premier forum for the publication of new research in lymphatic biology, offering an essential opportunity for the exchange of knowledge and ideas among top scientists in the field. Truly an international endeavor, the special double issue publishes original papers from laboratories in Australia, Finland, Germany, Japan, Sweden, Switzerland, and the United States. We at LRF are so grateful to *LR&B* publisher, **Mary Ann Liebert, Inc., Publishers**, for their continued support and their generosity in permitting this special issue of *LR&B* to be viewed in its entirety - without subscription.

The first 2009 issue of *LR&B* (Vol. 7, No. 1, 2009) provides a remarkably comprehensive overview of recent cutting-edge research focused on lymphedema, the pervasive, debilitating and most common form of lymphatic disorders. As *LR&B* editor-in-chief, **Stanley Rockson, MD**, states: "The content of (this) issue augurs well for the future of the science and of the patients who currently grapple with the complex problem of lymphedema."

Get Involved!

Please forward this e-newsletter to others.

Patients: Your physicians and therapists will enjoy this unique and limited opportunity to read the special double issue of *Lymphatic Research and Biology* online and will appreciate your interest and support of lymphatic science and medicine. Friends and family members may welcome the opportunity to learn more about the complexities of lymphatic disorders.

To our Research and Medical Partners: Please forward this e-newsletter and the link to *Lymphatic Research and Biology (LR&B)* to your colleagues and patients. You may want to consider a subscription to *LR&B*. Subscription information as well as instructions for authors can be found at <http://www.liebertpub.com>.

Public Policy Matters

LYMPHATIC RESEARCH IMPERATIVES IN 2009 CONGRESSIONAL BUDGET LANGUAGE

LRF is again deeply gratified to note the level of commitment reflected in the FY2009 Congressional budgetary language. In part, the Senate Report requests from the National Institutes of Health "a comprehensive update . . . setting forth short- and long-term strategic plans to advance research of the lymphatic system and lymphatic diseases, and specifically addressing the Trans-NIH Working Group 2008 Recommendations."

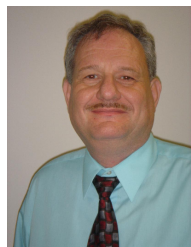
The Senate language (Senate Report 110-107) also issues the following charge to the National Institutes of Health: ". . . strongly urges that the NIH foster lymphatic research initiatives and awareness across all relevant NIH Institutes and Centers." This is significant in that it urges cooperation among various NIH offices, including the National Heart, Lung and Blood Institute; National Institute for Diabetes and Digestive and Kidney Diseases; National Cancer Institute; National

Institute of Arthritis and Musculoskeletal and Skin Diseases; and the National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases.

On the House of Representatives side, House Report 110-231 also urges cooperation among the various institutes of the NIH to "engage in lymphatic research initiatives." A particular recommendation is made to the National Cancer Institute to "support research on lymphedema, a chronic, progressive and historically neglected complication that must be endured by many cancer survivors."

Patient Matters

JOEL ARMEL: LYMPHEDEMA PATIENT AND PATIENT ADVOCATE



Joel Armel of Brooklyn, NY, is a fighter for justice and an all-around good citizen. As a member of the fraternal group, **Knights of Pythias - Genesis Lodge**, Joel is committed to the values of friendship, charity, and benevolence. At LRF we know firsthand that Joel takes each of these values very seriously.

Joel has lymphedema in his left leg and undergoes therapy throughout the year. When diagnosed 18 years ago, Joel - like so many newly diagnosed lymphatic disease patients - was surprised, then frustrated at the lack of medical resources and treatments available for lymphatic disease patients. Even more shocking to him was the difficulty he encountered in claiming medical insurance reimbursement for the various garments needed for his treatment. A natural advocate, he went to bat for his own needs and learned how to navigate the 'system' and make it work for himself and others.

As an advocate, Joel believes in making government work for the people it represents. He has worked with the New York State Insurance Department on revising health access laws to make insurance coverage and reimbursement policies more transparent for the average consumer in New York State. Most recently, Joel has helped advocate for funding from the New York State Legislature for LRF's planned National Lymphatic Disease Patient Registry and Tissue Bank.

At LRF we count ourselves lucky to have Joel Armel as a friend! We are indebted to him for his courageous leadership as a patient advocate and an LRF supporter.

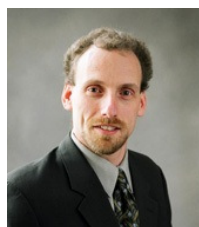
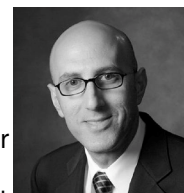
Get Involved!

To sign up for LRF's Advocacy Team, please e-mail us at lrf@lymphaticresearch.org.

Leadership Matters

LRF NAMES NEW BOARD CHAIR AND NEW TREASURER

LRF is pleased to announce that **Philip Braginsky, Esq.**, has assumed the chairmanship of LRF's Board of Directors as of January 1, 2009. Mr. Braginsky is Chair of the Intellectual Property Practice Group of the New York-based law firm, Sills Cummis Epstein & Gross. He has served on the LRF Board since 2006 and co-chaired our very successful 2007 Gala.



Kenneth Cerini, CPA, CFP, D.A.B.F.A. joined the LRF Board as Director and Treasurer. Mr. Cerini's firm, Cerini & Associates, LLP, of Bohemia, NY, offers a full array of financial planning and accounting services for both the for-profit and not-for-profit sectors. Mr. Cerini is also a monthly contributor to Long Island Business News, writing about Long Island's non-profit organizations.

Get Involved!

Leadership is important at every level. Become a voice and leader in your community to advance lymphatic research and advocate on behalf of lymphatic disease patients. Please contact us to inquire about volunteer opportunities.

Support and Awareness Matters

SPRING GALA

Unwrap the Gift of Lymphatic Research!

A very special evening was enjoyed by all who attended LRF's May 28th Awards Gala, ***Unwrap the Gift of Lymphatic Research!*** Held at Long Island's magnificent Oheka Castle, this important fundraising and 'friend-raising' event was a great success. Please click on our Gala logo (right) to see a listing of generous Gala Sponsors who made this spectacular evening possible!



We were pleased and proud to honor some very special LRF friends, including . . .

Mel Dubin, Chair and founder of Slant/Fin Corporation whose corporate headquarters has generously hosted LRF's administrative offices for the past four years - a very generous and kind "in kind" donation that permits LRF to dedicate more critical funding directly to our advocacy and research mission.

Allan and Tina Neill of Alabama whose remarkable philanthropic leadership established the first-ever endowed academic professorship in Lymphatic Research and Medicine. The Neills are extraordinarily dedicated to advancing lymphatic research and are wonderful and generous friends of LRF.

Roy Reichbach, Corporate Counsel for the New York Islanders and a Director of JumpTV, is a true 'team player' when it comes to lending assistance to LRF. Roy is a generous supporter of LRF's mission and work.

Stanley G. Rockson, M.D., Chief of Consultative Cardiology and Allan and Tina Neill Professor of Lymphatic Research and Medicine at Falk Cardiovascular Research Center, Stanford University School of Medicine, received LRF's first "Pioneer Award" for his years of service as Chair of LRF's Scientific/Medical Advisory Council, as Editor-in-Chief of *Lymphatic Research and Biology*, and for his outstanding leadership in the field of lymphatic research.

Pro Bono Partnership (Executive Director **Richard S. Hobish** and Director **Maurice K. Segall**) received special recognition for pro bono legal counsel to LRF and so many other NY metropolitan area non-profits.

New York Islander Hockey Hall-of-Famer, **Mike Bossy**, added celebrity sparkle as the evening's emcee; and **Chris Robbins** of Robbins-Wolfe Eventeurs brought great generosity-inspiring excitement to our live auction. Whether or not you were able to attend, you will want to see the great photos at <http://www.collages.net> (user name: LRF Gala; Password: 19133).

We thank our Gala sponsors the many LRF friends and supporters who attended and/or contributed to this major fundraising effort. We are deeply grateful for your generosity.

THE WILL MILES LYMPHATIC RESEARCH FUND MAKES SPECIAL GIFT TO LAUNCH LRF 'BRIDGING THE DECADES' DONOR CIRCLE

The Will Miles Lymphatic Research Fund of the Community Foundation of the Lowcountry located in Hilton Head Island, South Carolina has made a generous first gift, making it a founding member of LRF's Bridging the Decades Circle. LRF founder, **Wendy Chaite**, attended a "kick off" event at the home of **William and Debbie Miles** in Hilton Head, South Carolina. The fund is named for the Miles' ten-year-old son, **Will**, an avid sports enthusiast who never allows his battle with lymphedema to get the best of him.

LRF's *Bridging the Decades Circle* was developed to celebrate the Foundation's milestone tenth anniversary and the remarkable accomplishments that are now part of our young history. The excitement that exists in the scientific research community - largely due to LRF's seminal efforts - presents new challenges and opportunities for our second decade. Critical scientific and medical breakthroughs are now possible. For the millions of patients and families affected by lymphatic diseases worldwide, this long awaited momentum must not be lost. LRF's continued leadership is essential for bringing continued recognition and much-needed support for research to this critical, yet underserved area of human health. Proceeds from this special capital campaign will support needed capacity building efforts within LRF.

ADDITIONAL FUNDING SOUGHT!

Help LRF to maintain the momentum of a second decade of progress in lymphatic research! We are seeking twenty five generous patrons to partner with us in building LRF's capacity to meet the challenges of our second decade. If you or someone you know can join our Bridging the Decades Circle with a commitment of \$10,000 over two years, please contact Susan Staller at LRF's offices: 516/625-9675 or sstaller@lymphaticresearch.org

Get Involved!

In conjunction with the launch of the Will Miles Fund, the Miles family hosted a cocktail party at their home. Other friends of LRF have held fundraisers or turned special milestone events (birthdays, anniversaries) into fundraisers to support the work of LRF, helping to spread the word about lymphatic diseases and the needs of lymphatic disease patients and advancing lymphatic research. Whether it's an afternoon tea, a midnight movie party, a golf outing, a bowling party, or a 'team event' in a local marathon, please consider becoming an LRF Research Advocate and Fundraiser. LRF's staff is here to support your efforts! Please e-mail your ideas to lrf@lymphaticresearch.org.

Communication Matters

Thank you for reading our first e-edition of *Lymphatic Research Matters*. It is our goal to be responsive to the interests and needs of our readership. Please take a moment to send us an email to tell us what was helpful, what wasn't and what is most of interest to you. We would also like your ideas for new articles or segments that would be of interest to you. We value your input. Thank you!

Thanks for helping LRF 'Go Green'!

We're doing our best to save the environment and to put more LRF funding into RESEARCH!



LYMPHATIC RESEARCH FOUNDATION

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