

Providing Education and Support for those with Parkinson's Disease, their families and friends, caregivers and healthcare providers in the greater Austin Community.



CAPITAL AREA PARKINSON'S SOCIETY

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September, 2006 Newsletter

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September Meeting

The next meeting of CAPS will be held Saturday, September 16th, 2006 at 2:00 pm in the Mc Fadden Auditorium at Seton Main Hospital.

Parking is available in the garage at the south entrance. Free parking vouchers are available at the meeting.

Come meet and greet Karen Tuel, Registered Dental Hygienist (RDH) of the Austin District Dental Hygienists' Society. Karen will be sharing some information about ways to keep your teeth and gums healthy and happy. She will be answering any questions you may have concerning your dental health. Be sure to drop by and give her a big, toothy grin!

August Meeting Update

Mmm, mmm, mmm. Good company and lots of yummy Ice Cream. What more can we say?

A Political Note . . .

Stem cell research suffered a major setback in July when President Bush vetoed the first bill of his presidency, H.R. 810. If signed into law, this bill would have provided additional government funding for this very promising research. Congress was unable to muster the two-thirds majority to override the veto, and the bill failed.

Stem cells are special "proto-cells" that can develop into many types of tissue, potentially replacing dying cells in people with many diseases . . . including Parkinson's. The procedure is controversial, however, and many in Congress did not support H.R. 810 - despite the fact that a majority of their constituents did.

There are several links on the next page to help you learn more about it. Once you have the facts, we hope you'll let your representative know where you stand!

Knowledge Is Power: Stem Cells on the Web

- Wikipedia: A good general overview from the Free Encyclopedia.
http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Stem_cell
- National Institutes of Health: An extensive treatment; goes as deep as you'd ever want to.
<http://stemcells.nih.gov/>
- Yahoo! News: Broad coverage of what's happening now with stem cell research.
http://news.yahoo.com/fc/Science/Stem_Cell_Research
- Contacting your Representative: *Don't know who represents you? No problem; you can look them up using your address and/or zip code.*
US House of Representatives: <http://www.house.gov/writerep/>
US Senate: http://www.senate.gov/general/contact_information/senators_cfm.cfm
Texas House and Senate: <http://www.capitol.state.tx.us/fyi/fyi.htm>

Nominating Committee Filled, But . . .

We've got a full Nominating Committee, thanks to all our wonderful volunteers. Now comes the task of picking our officers, and we could really, *really* use some willing and eager souls to help CAPS run and shape its future. Take this opportunity to do some good. For more information or to volunteer, please see Lois Rice at the meeting, or call her at 288-4087.

Young Onset Group

The Young Onset Group meets Sunday, September 17th, 2006 at the Red Lobster at 109 W Anderson at 3:00 PM. For more information, give James Schrader a call at 228-1426. As always, this invitation is open to everyone.

Web Site Update: Getting Personal

Mark Lamkin, our Webmaster *Extraordinaire*, has added a new section entitled '*The Personal Side of Parkinson's Disease*' to the CAPS Web site. It's a place to gain some insight into how others are dealing with the challenges of Parkinson's, and - if you feel so inclined - to share some of your own. To go there from the [CAPS home page](#), click the "Parkinson's" button, then the "Click here to read personal reflections on coping with PD" link on the right top corner of the new page.

Member Update

Tom Fisher, who took over the newsletter for the summer, will now be holding the coveted CAPS Newsletter Editor title indefinitely (waves to fellow CAPSers), and he's open to suggestions as to how to better fill this monthly pair of pages. Please feel free to contact him via email at mailto:Jumspstart5@sbcglobal.net or by phone at (512) 282-9420 with suggestions for future content, comments or information about Parkinson's-related news in the Austin area. Give him a shout and let him know how this little publication can better meet your needs.