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The Bridge

The Takayasu's Arteritis Research
Association (TARA)
Newsletter

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TARA Wishes Happy New Year To All

By John Booros and The Board Of Directors of TARA

As we begin 2005, may we be proud of all of our successes during the past year and resolve to build on those successes in the New Year.

The Takayasu's Arteritis Research Association (TARA) continues to meet the challenges of volunteer organizations serving the needs of our members and locating new members to our Takayasu's Arteritis (TA) family.

As we write our New Year's resolutions for 2005, won't you add an item to your list that promotes TARA? Won't you consider calling or emailing an old TA friend just to make contact. Perhaps you know another with TA or know of a friend or family member of somebody with TA who might be interested in knowing more about TARA but has not yet filled out the contact form at or website www.takayasus.org. Maybe you can add a resolution to your 2005 list to bring a friend, family member or colleague to our

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"Won't you consider calling or emailing an old TA friend just to make contact."

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TARA May Carry On TAFI's Mission

By Sheri Schwar and John Booros

TARA is now in discussions with Takayasu's Arteritis Foundation International (TAFI) to carry-on their mission and Pat Grigg's Vision.

As most of you know, TARA has just recently been given the opportunity to welcome the Takayasu's Arteritis Association (TAA) membership to our Takayasu's Arteritis (TA) family. TARA is now

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What is TARA ?

By Tracey Lerner and John Booros

The Takayasu's Arteritis Research Association (TARA), is a non-profit 501 (c) (3) voluntary health organization established in the United States in 1999 to seek out and advocate for people who have Takayasu's Arteritis (TA). Tara is funded primarily by the generosity of its members, their families, and friends.

"TARA is funded primarily by the generosity of its members, their families and friends."

The goal of TARA is to promote public awareness about this disease by providing current information to patients, families, friends and medical professionals and helping to facilitate avenues of funding for research on TA, seeking new ways of early detection of the disease, better treatments of TA and, finding a cure for Takayasu's Arteritis.

TARA has located patients all over the world, including, England, Canada,

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organization and introduce them to the TA family.

Our feature for this coming year will be the Newsletter. It promises to be of interest to all concerned about those with TA and related issues. It will also be a continued source of information on the current research efforts involving TA. In 2005 there will also be an increased emphasis on teaming with those groups representing other rare forms of vasculitis to further progress the TA cause.

What an opportune time to invite your friends, family members, medical professionals and colleague to read the latest on TA and related issues.

Again, Happy New Year to you from myself, and the Board of Directors of TARA. May we all enjoy good health and friendship in the New Year.



Missing Persons...Help Us Find Them

By John Booros

For those of you that did not receive a New Years Greeting from TARA by email, it might be because your email address that we have on record "kicked back" to as undeliverable. The message was sent out to over 1000 persons and the "undeliverable" rate was about 40%.

At this time I would like to encourage you all to update your contact information from the member link on the homepage. It is more important now, more than ever before, that we are able to make direct contact with you.

The new research studies on Takayasu's Arteritis funded by NIH are about to begin. Registration to participate or to be kept informed has already begun. This applies to everyone, not just those of you in the US. So please update your contact information now so that we may keep you updated about the studies.

You can reach the member form from the TARA home page. The link is on the left hand side of the page. You can get there directly by going to <http://www.takayusus.org/memberform.htm>

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hopeful that in the near future, it will be able to carry on the vision of Pat Grigg and the mission of the Takayasu's Arteritis Foundation International (TAFI) as well.

This will be a well thought out "coming together" that will benefit all of those with TA. This winning combination of all three TA organizations will ensure that the old saying "strength in numbers" holds true. This now stronger group is just the first step towards TA's participation in a larger umbrella group that will represent all of the vasculities. This umbrella group is already in the formation stages, and TARA has been there from the beginning representing those with TA.

*"This will be an well
thought "coming
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Brazil, Ireland, Australia, New Zealand, Germany, and all over the United States. Fifty-four countries in all. There many are others out there with this disease that we have yet to find.

Please Visit the New TARA Website at www.takayusus.org and let us know what you think. Your comments and suggestions are always welcome.

Donations Are Always Appreciated

By John Booros

Membership in TARA never costs. However, your donation helps to defray the costs associated with running TARA. There are brochures, mailings, web-service, conference fees, educational materials to name but a few.

Consider supporting TARA with contribution. Your contribution in any amount will be greatly appreciated.

\$25

\$50

\$100

\$500

\$1,000

\$_____ Other Amount

You may wish to make a special contribution in memory of or in tribute to: Amount \$_____ *(Remembrances will be acknowledged without disclosure of gift amount unless asked to do so.)*

Make Check or Money Order Payable to:

TARA

2030 County Line Rd. Suite 199

Huntingdon Valley, PA 19006

Be sure to include your name, address, phone Number and email.

All contributions are tax deductible to the maximum extent allowable by law.