

Your EM Connection

TEA's Online Newsletter

Second Edition, February 25, 2023



Member Donations at Work: TEA makes research donation to Yale University

TEA recently presented to Dr. Stephen G. Waxman, MD, PhD, and Professor of Neurology, Neurobiology and Pharmacology at Yale, a \$75,000 research donation on behalf of TEA. Dr. Waxman and his team at Yale are working to develop more effective, non-addictive treatments for chronic pain, and, hopefully, a cure for diseases like EM.

According to Dr. Waxman the work that is ongoing is to develop ways to silence the critical molecules that cause pain. The hope is that in the future there will be drugs (pills taken by mouth) or gene therapies that will silence pain much more effectively than at present.

Dr. Waxman stressed that TEA's donations "are worth their weight in gold" because they come without the red tape of government dollars. Moreover, the funds can be used when needed (ie., experiments can be done when necessary rather than waiting nine months to submit a grant application). The donations also provide flexibility so that new, risky ideas can be explored and then be used as pilot data to apply to the National Institute of Health for large grants. Donations such as TEA's also provide stability---private dollars are like mortar, holding Yale's government grants together.

Dr. Waxman will be reporting on his research progress throughout the year. TEA will share this information in upcoming EM Connections E-Newsletters.

If you wish to make donations to further research into the causes and cure for EM you may make donations at any time to TEA through a link on its website, **burningfeet.org**.



TEA to launch four educational videos on its website and social media

TEA has been busy producing informational streaming videos that will be launched in the near future on the TEA website, Facebook and YouTube, and other social media sites, as appropriate. These videos were the culmination of efforts of Board members Justin Wedul and Deborah Mosarski. The videos will help fulfill TEA's goal to reach as many EM sufferers as possible, and to provide meaningful information to them regarding their condition.

The videos will be launched over several months and cover subjects such as EM symptoms and treatment, research, and education. To view the videos go to **TEA's YouTube Channel**.



Erythromelalgia Subject of Story and Article

Je Banach, an author living with EM, has written a short story entitled "Big Bird". The main character in the story has erythromelalgia. The story is printed in Story Magazine, Issue 14, August, 2022, and was nominated for a Pushcart Prize, honoring the best short fiction published in the small presses over the previous year.

In addition, Ms. Banach wrote an article featured in Time Magazine's February 24, 2023 online publication (Ideas/Health): 'I Feel Like I'm Burning Alive. It's Hard for People to Believe Me'.

This article is posted on TEA's website on the 'In The News' page (February 25, 2023 entry).

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