# THE PARKINSON PATH



**The Parkinson Association of Northern California** is an organization dedicated to enhancing the lives of people with Parkinson's, their families and care partners.



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# Multidisciplinary Care for Parkinson's Disease

by Norika Malhado-Chang, MD, Associate Professor of Neurology, UC Davis School of Medicine

ne important aspect of Parkinson's Disease (PD) that sets it apart from other conditions is its complexity. Twenty years ago, PD was purely considered a "movement disorder," resulting in symptoms affecting mobility, such as stiffness, slowness, and difficulty walking. Now, we know that only scratches the surface! In addition to motor symptoms, PD involves an array of non-motor symptoms like constipation, sleep disturbance, depression, anxiety, cognitive impairment, and trouble with speech and swallowing to name a few. Therefore, it really makes sense to approach this from a multidisciplinary care perspective.

What does multidisciplinary care entail? It is a model of healthcare that harnesses the expertise of a variety of specialists to provide truly comprehensive care for the whole person. Fifty years ago, a patient would have all their medical issues managed by their primary care physician. As the medical field has evolved, we have subspecialists trained in a variety of diseases to provide expert care in a certain area. Within the realm of Parkinson's, we should capitalize on the talents and skills of others in the healthcare field by employing a "team" approach. If I were to recruit an all-star team for PD, it would include:

- 1. Parkinson's Neurologist (may include a Movement Disorders Fellow and a Nurse Practitioner)
- 2. Neuro Physical Therapist (unlike most PT's who are orthopedics-focused, Neuro PT's have special training in neurologic conditions, like PD. They may even have certification in LSVT BIG or PWR-Parkinson's Wellness Recovery)
- 3. Speech / Swallow Therapist (some specialize in PD, with certification in LSVT LOUD to help with both voice and swallowing)
- 4. Psychiatrist or Geri-psychiatrist (doctors who are experts in depression, anxiety, and psychosis)
- 5. Psychologist or counselor (both for the person with PD and the spouse)
- 6. Social Worker (An MSW provides valuable information about community resources, caregiver assistance, medication financial assistance programs, etc)
- 7. Occupational therapist (OT's help with hand and finger dexterity, specialized utensils, and assistive devices for getting around)



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### Save the Date!

### Saturday, April 27

Support Group Facilitator's Workshop

Thursday, May 2
Big Day of Giving

### Sunday, May 5

National Parkinson Foundation's "Moving Day!" Walk

### Saturday, October 26

The Parkinson Association's Annual Educational Conference

### What If?

by Dorothy Ross, Davis Support Group

What if I had been diagnosed with Parkinson's disease when I was 60 years old instead of hearing the bad news after I turned 70? How might my life have been different? I certainly wouldn't have done so much adventurous traveling.

During the decade prior to my diagnosis, I visited three different continents. First my husband and I joined my brother and his wife for the Demi Tour du Mont Blanc, a 50-mile trek at high elevation on Europe's highest peak. Our hike averaged fifteen miles a day—through France, Italy, and Switzerland. Would a Parkie do that?

Then, in the autumn of 2001, I was granted my lifelong wish to see the Dark Continent. The trip began with two weeks at a South Africa safari lodge, followed by a week on the watery edge of Botswana's Okavanga Delta. Jouncing across the bush in an open Land Rover without seat belts in pursuit of a herd of elephants was very exciting and very dangerous.

Bill and I toured Ecuador's Galapagos Islands just a year before I received my diagnosis. Tracking the fearless fauna of Darwin's islands meant slip sliding on wet rocks and slick red mud. Getting close enough to get



a picture of a blue-footed booby was fun, but it wasn't easy. We needed our doctor's permission to make the trip because we were over 65. Would she have signed my form if she'd known I had Parkinson's?

We now know, from looking at old home videos, that I had PD for at least ten years before my diagnosis. Stiff arms and pill-rolling fingers made my motion sickness obvious, once we knew what to look for. I'm glad I wasn't aware of my insidious invader. The Africa trip wouldn't have happened if we'd known about my condition. Hiking in the Alps? Not likely. The Galapagos? No way.

Movement Disorders Specialists tout the benefits of early detection. They say the sooner someone with Parkinson's begins an exercise regimen and starts taking anti-PD medications the longer that person can live well with the disease. I suppose that's true for many people. Personally, I'm grateful for my decade of undetected Parkinson's. They were ten of the best years of my life.

### Notes from the Association

### Welcome to the Board

Carolyn Loveridge has joined the Board of Directors of the Parkinson Association of Northern California. Carolyn's career centered on Early Childhood Education where she worked in the nonprofit arena and for the State of California. Carolyn retired from the California Department of Education, Early Education, and Support Division. Many of you may recognize Carolyn, as a carepartner for her husband Arnold, she has been an active participant in the Parkinson's Community for several years.

In addition to joining the board of directors, Carolyn will be serving as the incoming Editor of the Parkinson Path!

### **Dates to Note**

- The Parkinson Foundation will hold its Moving Day! Walk in Sacramento on May 5, 2019. Funds raised support the Parkinson's Foundation national mission.
- www.movingdaywalk.org
- This year's Big Day of Giving will be on May 2.
   Twenty-four hours of community-wide philanthropy.
   www.panctoday.org
- The 2019 Parkinson Association's Educational Conference will be held on October 26, 2019, at the McClellan Conference Center, Sacramento. More information to follow.

### SUPPORT GROUP SHARING

## **DMV Ombudsman at Roseville Support Group**

errold Sieberg, the Northern California Senior Ombudsman from the DMV, was invited to speak at the Roseville Parkinson's Support Group after many of the members expressed concerns about the process for renewing their driver's licenses. Jerrold confirmed that it is your mental and physical condition, and your ability to follow traffic laws, that most impact your ability to maintain your license. He also shared that drivers age 70 or older are required to renew their licenses in person and will have to take a written exam and a vision test to verify they can see and think clearly enough to drive safely.

Jerrold discussed the idea that as we age our reaction time slows, and we may be less reliable drivers. Statistically, he shared, when seniors and teenagers drive a similar number of miles, they are involved in a similar number of accidents. However, seniors, who tend to limit their driving to familiar places and daylight hours appear to be safer drivers. A person's age alone is not a sufficient reason for a reexamination. However, the DMV has the authority to investigate and reexamine every driver's ability to operate a motor vehicle safely if there is a change in their physical or mental condition or a poor driving record.

Jerrold confirmed that doctors are required to report and explain medical findings to DMV. These include symptoms such as the lapse of consciousness, stroke, Parkinson's disease, cognitive impairments such as dementia, sleep disorders, or diabetes.

FYI, to improve your driving skills and perhaps reduce

### Share with us!

When information shared at your support group could benefit the rest of us, please share! Email your information to Sharon at the Parkinson Association offices.

panc@panctoday.org

your insurance rate, check out the **Mature Driver Improvement Course** which provides instruction, specifically tailored to older drivers, regarding defensive driving and California motor vehicle laws. A list of approved programs is available on the DMV website.

To view the DMV Senior Guide for Safe Driving go to <a href="https://www.dmv.ca.gov">https://www.dmv.ca.gov</a> and put "senior" in the search box. You can also arrange to have a guest speaker by contacting the Ombudsman for Sacramento and Northern California Counties at 916-657-6464.

### Multidisciplinary Care for Parkinson's Disease continued from page 1

- 8. Personal Trainer
- Gastroenterologist and/or urologist (constipation and bladder dysfunction can become challenging and require a specialized approach)
- Dietician or Nutritionist (Maintaining proper nutrition while optimizing the effect of one's medications can be a tough balancing act, and nutritionists can be quite helpful in this regard)
- 11. Palliative care specialist
- 12. Financial planner

This may look like a Fantasy sports team line-up, but this is the future of Parkinson's care. The days when you saw a

neurologist alone will be gone, and the "clinic of the future" will have all these specialists in one place to help you from all different angles. For the time being, getting all these specialists in the same place, at the same time, is a challenge (but we're working on it!). So for now, each person should assume the role of Team Manager and look to recruit these specialists to work in their corner. With a condition as complex as Parkinson's, enlisting the help of professionals across this spectrum ensures a holistic and comprehensive approach that, in all likelihood, might slow the complications of PD or even slow progression of the disease. This, in turn, will help you stay proactive and live your best life with Parkinson's.

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A monthly gift to the Parkinson Association creates an impact every day of the year! Your recurring contribution allows the Parkinson Association to consistently support the needs of the Northern California Parkinson's Community.

You can easily setup your monthly gift at: www.panctoday.org

### **Your Legacy**

Make a lasting impact on the lives of the Parkinson's Community, by including the Parkinson Association of Northern California in your estate planning.

For more information contact Michelle Coleman at michelle@panctoday.org



### **Auburn**

### **Caregivers Luncheon\***

2nd Tuesday, 11:30 a.m.

Awful Annie's Cafe
13460 Lincoln Way, Auburn, CA 95603

Karen Hancock 530-885-0950

karen@hancockonline.net

### **Benicia**

2nd Saturday, 10:30 a.m.-12 p.m. 201 Raymond Dr., Benicia, CA 94510 Brad Miller 707-515-9216 bradfordmiller807@gmail.com

### **Carmichael**

### Sacramento Area Young Onset Support Group

1st Wednesday, 6:30 p.m. Carmichael Presbyterian Church 5645 Marconi Ave., Carmichael, CA 95608 Mary Beth Arjil 530-409-4118 marjil@sbcglobal.net

Tony Wong 916-730-6303 acwong60@gmail.com

### **Carmichael Eskaton Support Group**

1st Wednesday, 10:00 a.m.-11:30 a.m. 3939 Walnut Ave., Carmichael, CA 95608 Ron von Rajcs 916-715-3920 rondivr@surewest.net

### Chico

1st Wednesday, 1:30 p.m. Sycamore Glen Ret. Community 1199 Diablo Ave., Chico, CA 95973 Bill Bragdon 530-342-7272 tinmanb@sbcglobal.net

### **Davis**

3rd Thursday, 1:30 p.m.

Davis Senior Center

646 A Street, Davis, CA 95616

Sue Curry 530-304-9927

smcurry@sbcglobal.net

# **Regional Support Groups**

For additional information, visit www.panctoday.org

### **Davis Care Partners Group\***

2nd Wednesday, 1:30 p.m. Davis Senior Center 646 A Street, Davis, CA 95616 Karen Eagan 530-564-4323 kareneagan747@gmail.com

### **El Dorado Hills**

2nd Tuesday, 12 p.m.
Rolling Hills Church Multipurpose Bldg,
West End of Complex-Rm 8
800 White Rock Rd.
El Dorado Hills, CA, 95762
Donna Rixmann 916-712-9642
donna@yogapeace.net
Larry Alver 916-933-2465
Idalver@sbcglobal.net

### El Dorado Hills/Folsom Caregiver Luncheon\*

3rd Thursday, 11 a.m.-1 p.m. Round Table Pizza, 2793 East Bidwell St., Folsom, CA 95630 Larry Alver 916-933-2465 Idalver@sbcglobal.net

#### **Elk Grove**

3rd Wednesday, 10 a.m. Senior Center of Elk Grove, 8830 Sharkey Ave., Elk Grove, CA 95624 Myron Jantzen 916-686-4555 mpjantzen@aol.com

#### **Fairfield**

4th Tuesday, 11 a.m.

Paradise Valley Estates
Social Services Coordinator AL/IL
(Internal group)
2600 Estates Drive
Fairfield, CA 94533
Robin Murrary 707-207-7831
RobinM@pvestates.com

### **Folsom**

4th Monday, 10 a.m.
Folsom Senior & Arts Center
48 Natoma Street, Folsom, CA 95630
Mary & Gene Cabaluna 916-987-1684
cabalunaem@comcast.net

### **Grass Valley**

2nd Friday, 1:30 p.m. Atria Grass Valley 150 Sutton Way, Grass Valley, CA 95945 Nancy Lockwood 530-272-7950 nmlockwood@aol.com

### **Lake County**

2nd Monday, 2-3:30 p.m. *United Christian Parish* 745 N. Brush St., Lakeport, CA 95453 Phil Myers 707-263-4624 phillip.e.myers@att.net

### Lincoln

3rd Tuesday, 10 a.m. Granite Springs Church 1170 E. Joiner Pkwy., Lincoln, CA 95648 Brenda Cathey 916-253-7537 bjcathey@gmail.com

### Lodi

1st Monday, 10 a.m.
Temple Baptist Church
801 S. Lower Sacramento Rd.
Lodi, CA 95242
Ron & Maureen Olsen 209-745-1011
molsen@softcom.net
Robbin & Pat Bray 209-269-1080
braywaves@gmail.com

### Caregivers Group\*

3rd Monday, 10 a.m.-12 p.m. Temple Baptist Church 801 S. Lower Sacramento Rd. Lodi, CA 95242 Call for directions/information Jean Whitted 209-368-2809 bjwhitted@hotmail.com

### Loyalton

1st Friday, 1:30 p.m. Golden West Restaurant Main Street, Hwy 49, Loyalton, CA 96118 Betty Ferguson 530-993-4002 fergi45@gmail.com

### Modesto

3rd Wednesday, 1:30–3:30 p.m. Jan.–Nov. No meeting in July Trinity United Presbyterian Church 1600 Carver Rd., Modesto, CA 95350 Paul Vantress 209-526-6184 modestoparkinsons@gmail.com

### Don't see a support group in your area? Let us help you start one!

### Contact us at 916-357-6641 or panc@panctoday.org

### Napa

### **Young Onset Group**

4th Sunday, 3 p.m. Covenant Presbyterian Church 1226 Salvador Ave., Napa, CA 94558 Joe Burger 707-266-6156 jeburger99@gmail.com

### **Oroville**

1st Thursday, 1:30–3 p.m. *Trinity Presbyterian Church*2350 Foothill Blvd., Oroville, CA 95966

Carol Rawlins 530-282-0499

#### **Placerville**

1st Tuesday, 1:30–3 p.m. Senior Center Dining Room 937 Spring Street, Placerville, CA 95667 Peggy Kline 408-309-1125 pegkline103@gmail.com

### Redding

2nd Friday, 1:00 p.m. Social Time; 1:30–3 p.m. Meeting; 3–3:30 p.m., Shasta Shout – speech therapy First United Methodist Church 1825 East Street, Redding, CA 95350 Kim Hawkins 530-945-7628 kim.reddingpsg@yahoo.com

### Roseville

1st Tuesday, 1:30–3 p.m.

Maidu Community Center
1550 Maidu Dr., Roseville, CA 95661

Harry Butler 916-837-3366

hapbutler@comcast.net

Website: rosevillepsg.weebly.com

#### **West Roseville**

4th Tuesdays, 2:30–3:30 p.m. St. John's Episcopal Church 2351 Pleasant Grove Blvd. Roseville, CA 95747

Ken and Arlene Fujino 916-474-3489 kfujino1@msn.com

### **Sacramento**

### Arden/Arcade

3rd Thursday, 10 a.m.

Arden Christian Church

4300 Las Cruces Way, Carmichael, CA 95864

Keith Tronson 916-395-2771

keithtronson@sbcglobal.net

Jim Morris 916-359-4859

jimor1940@gmail.com

### Sacramento Caregivers Lunch Bunch\* (Collaborative Group)

3rd Tuesday, 11 a.m. Ettore's 2376 Fair Oaks Blvd., Sacramento, CA 95825 Anne Spaller 916-728-9333 aspaller@deloro.org

### Caregiver/Care Partner Meeting Gold River Lewy Body Dementia (Collaborative Group)

2nd Thursday, 10 a.m.
Eskaton Lodge Gold River
11390 Coloma Rd., Gold River, CA 95670
Denise Davis 800-272-3900
denise.davis@alz.org

### **Sacramento Men's Group**

Suspended pending further notice.

#### **Natomas Area**

2nd Thursday, 10-11:30 a.m. Adventure Christian Church 1500 N Market Blvd., Sacramento, CA 95834 Irene Duggan 916-710-6912 parkinsons1018@gmail.com

#### **Northeast Area**

4th Thursday, 1 p.m. St. Marks Unified Methodist Church, Room E-24 2391 St. Marks Way, Sacramento, CA 95864 Sean Tracy 916-482-7014 sstfam@winfirst.com

### **Post DBS Patients**

See class schedule, location and contact information at www.panctoday.org

### **South Area**

2nd Thursday, 1 p.m. Asian Community Center 7334 Park City Dr., Sacramento, CA 95831 David Teraoku 916-685-4162

### **Sonoma County**

1st Saturday, 1 p.m., Feb/Mar/Apr/May/ June/Oct/Nov 2nd Saturday, 1 p.m., Aug/Dec NO meetings in Jan/Jul/Sept. Christ Church United Methodist 1717 Yulupa Ave., Santa Rosa, CA 95405 Nancy Wilson 707-888-5174 wroseland@earthlink.net Marc Alexander 707-431-8767 malexander109@comcast.net

### Stockton

2nd Thursday, 1:30 p.m. O'Connor Woods, West Hall 3400 Wagner Heights Rd. Stockton, CA 95209 Mary Ann Behrens 209-477-6496 mbehrens64@gmail.com

### **Tracy**

### **Parkinson Support Group of Tracy**

2nd & 4th Mondays, 10 a.m. -12 p.m. St. Paul's Lutheran Church 1635 Chester Ave., Tracy, CA 95376 Kathy Clark 209-879-3108 classieladyat63@yahoo.com

### **Vacaville**

### **Parkinson's Support Group**

4th Wednesday, 1:30–3 p.m.

The McBride Senior Center
91 Town Square Place, Vacaville, CA 95688

Brenda DeMartini 707-330-1551

brendaldemartini@gmail.com

### Woodland

4th Tuesday, 1 p.m.
No meeting Jul/Aug
Woodland Comm. & Senior Center
2001 East Street, Woodland, CA 95776
Bernadette Murray 530-661-1950
bemurray2008@gmail.com

### **Yuba City**

2nd Monday, 1 p.m. Sutter Medical Foundation 969 Plumas St., Suite 208 Yuba City, CA 95991 Janice Herbert 530-673-3064 tricountyparkinsons@gmail.com

PANC Advisory Support Group Facilitators and attendees should be aware that not all medications, treatments or theories about Parkinson's disease are 'right' for every person. If presentations or discussions within your Group raise issues in your mind regarding your personal condition or treatment plan, you are advised to bring those questions to your treating physician for further exploration prior to making any changes in your medications or routines.

\* Caregiver / Care Partner meeting.



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Or mail-in your check to: PANC

1024 Iron Point Road #1036, Folsom, CA 95630

\* Pre-schedule your donations beginning April 15, 2019 and it will be processed on the Big Day!