**SPECIAL EDITION FOR JULY 2020**

With limited party size (6 per table) in most restaurants, we will not be having our usual dinner/meetings for the foreseeable future. We continue to wait until these limitations are lifted before scheduling a meeting.

Please stay safe and keep your mask handy – SOP for transplant recipients 😊

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**UAB HEART, LUNG AND LIVER TRANSPLANT SUPPORT GROUP**

**NEWSLETTER**

Stan Smith – President/Editor (205)655-3151
Stephen Foster – Vice President/Chaplain
Judy Burch – Secretary
Lori Higginbotham - Treasurer

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**Message from Stan Smith, President**

I hope everyone is doing well. My family continues to stay well, and continues to be careful when going out. We are wearing face masks (now required by Alabama) when we go to the store or to a restaurant (take out only). My Church asked all of the volunteers to wear the face masks since opening up for in person services the first of last month. There continues to be no date set for volunteers to return to UAB. Hence, I will not be able to do a mass mailing of the Newsletter again this month since that would require me to go to the mailroom at UAB Hospital.

As a member of the UAB Auxiliary, we had our first virtual board meeting last month. I am not set up to do Zoom, so I participated as a conference call 😊 Fortunately, I continue to do most of my volunteer work from home. I have been talking to a few patients new to the transplant list, and working on the Support Group Newsletter. I also do a Newsletter for the UAB Auxiliary.

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**History of the UAB Heart, Lung and Liver Transplant Support Group**

The idea for the Support Group came from Clark Taylor, UAB Hospital Administrator, after watching an employee, Iris Fitts, go through so much anguish for 11 months while her husband, Sam, waited on a heart transplant. Sam finally received his transplant in November 1988. Clark worked with Sam and Iris along with several other transplant patients to form the UAB Heart Transplant Support Group. The charter meeting of the UAB Heart Transplant Support Group was held in October 1989. Rev. Sam Fitts (H 181) was elected President, Don Dupree was elected Vice President and Iris Fitts was elected Secretary.

By this time, there had been 198 heart, 3 heart/double lung transplants, and the first lung transplants performed at UAB in 1989.

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**UAB HEART, LUNG AND LIVER TRANSPLANT SUPPORT GROUP**

**Release Form**

I give permission for my name, transplant number and transplant date to be used by the UAB Heart, Lung and Liver Transplant Support Group for inclusion in the monthly Newsletter and Support Group Scrapbook. I understand that this information will be used only for official Support Group activities.

**Name**

Transplant Type ____________ Transplant Number (If known) ____________ Transplant Date ____________

Address

City________________________State________Zip________

Phone Number________Email________________________Signature________________________Date________________________

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**HAPPY KIDNEY DAY!**

(If known) ____________ Transplant Date ____________ Transplant Type ____________ Transplant Number ____________

**The new heart & lung transplant recipients**

**HAPPY LIVER DAY!**

(If known) ____________ Transplant Date ____________ Transplant Type ____________ Transplant Number ____________

**The new liver transplant recipients are:**

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**UAB HEART, LUNG AND LIVER TRANSPLANT SUPPORT GROUP**

7/17/2020
The picture below is from the October 1990 Support Group picnic. The third person from the left is Louise Jackson, heart/double lung recipient (Stanford University Hospital) – she would become the second president of the Support Group in October 1991. The fifth person from the left is Nancy Smith, heart/double lung recipient, and next to her (6th person) is Katie Hurst Teague, heart recipient. Katie and Nancy were next to each other in the isolation rooms in the CICU in the Jefferson Towers.

At the 1991 Support Group picnic, we celebrated the 10th Anniversary of the UAB Heart Transplant Program. Here is a picture with Ronnie McKenzie holding the 10th Anniversary cake.

In 1996, the Support Group partnered with the Alabama Organ Center to create the spring picnic which was called the All Transplant Picnic. This picnic would become the Celebration of Life Picnic and would include Donor Families.

In 1998 the Heart and Lung Support Group joined with the Liver Transplant Support Group and became the UAB Heart, Lung and Liver Transplant Support Group, and was listed on the UNOS website. During these 30 years, our mission has not changed: we support both pre and post transplant patients and promote organ donor awareness. Many of our Support Group members carry on this mission through volunteering with the Legacy of Hope, the Alabama Kidney Foundation, Camp Bridges, the UAB Auxiliary, and participate in the Transplant Games of America.

‘My Legacy Continues Thanks to an Organ Donor’ Checkout the newly designed Donor Recipient Shirt that the Legacy of Hope is using for a fund raising project. With the funds generated by the selling of the T-shirts, special gifts will be given to the Donor Families in addition to the Bronze Medallion now presented during the Donor Recognition Ceremony. If you would be interested in a T-shirt, the cost will be $12 including shipping and handling (make checks payable to Legacy of Hope Educ. Fund).

Legacy of Hope
(Aftercare Department)
502 20th Street South
Birmingham, AL 35233

You can also contact Jill Malone at the Legacy of Hope, 205-801-7353.

Remember to tell your story.
Stan Smith, President
5213 Peppertree Lane
Trussville, AL 35173
Phone 205-655-3151 - please leave a message
Heartlungkid1@gmail.com

SCHEDULED EVENTS & FUTURE MEETINGS
August 15, 2020 – To be determined
September 19, 2020 – To be determined
October 17, 2020 – To be determined
November 14, 2020 – To be determined
December 25, 2020 – Annual Christmas Day lunch - pending

Informal Dinner/Meeting
Once the COVID-19 crisis has subsided, we were access reinstating our monthly Dinner Meeting.

And remember to...

Healthcare Workers Rock!

“Always turn a negative situation into a positive situation.”

...Michael Jordan
(From Brainyquote.com)

Please tear on the dotted line and return this form as soon as possible to:

UAB Heart, Lung and Liver Transplant Support Group
% Stan Smith
5213 Peppertree Lane
Trussville, AL 35173