



Niagara Frontier South Presents 80 Lyme Foundation Awards

At the last Niagara Frontier South Division Council for 2016-17, the division handed out 10 Brittany awards and 70 Joseph Michael Wuest Awards to division Kiwanians. The awards resulted from the division fund raiser to benefit the Kiwanis Pediatric Lyme Disease Foundation. The division raised more than \$15,000 for the foundation. At left, Past Gov. Eric G. Paul, 2017-18 Lt. Gov. Bonnie Baker and 2016-17 Lt. Gov. Hank Baker. Hank Baker also is governor-elect for 2017-18. They are each wearing Brittany awards.

Mount Vernon Offers Lyme Disease Education

Members of the Mount Vernon Kiwanis Club staffed a booth recently at a "Mind, Body and Soul Day" organized by Kiwanian Donna Jackson and the Mount Vernon School District. The club chose to educate young children and their parents about the dangers of Lyme disease. Each child was asked a riddle about "a lime, a dime, and a stick" before they received a chance to win a prize donated by the club. They learned that a "bad lime" is spelled with a "y", and a tick smaller than a "dime" can make them "sick" when it "sticks" to their skin. Members used the opportunity to identify and invite new members to join Kiwanis.



Pediatric
Lyme Disease
DPG John
Gridley



What is Lyme Disease?
Lyme Disease is caused by bacteria usually transmitted by the deer tick. It is a scary possibility to consider for New York State residents who enjoy spending time outside.
Lyme disease may affect the brain in many ways. The most common is a disturbance in thinking (cognition). The spirochete (*Borrelia Burgdorferi*), which causes Lyme disease can invade the cen-

tral nervous system within days to a week of initial skin infection, as a result it disseminates through the blood stream. The majority of people who are treated early with antibiotics do well and incur no long term problems. The people who are not treated until later in the illness may have a more complicated course. That is why I have been telling you for the past 17 years, if you think that you have got bitten by a tick go to your doctor immediately and demand a blood test and do not wait for the blood test results. Start an antibiotic treatment at once.
Did you know? Lyme disease is 1.5 times more common than breast cancer and 6 times more common than HIV and is the fastest growing infectious disease. Did you know, the CDC acknowledges at least 300,000 new infections per year. Did you know, the tell-tale "bull's-eye rash" after a bite occurs in less than half of all Lyme infections. Did you know, current testing often provides a false negative result. Did

you know, most insurance companies do not cover treatment for Lyme disease.
Do you know the symptoms? Severe fatigue and exhaustion, joint pain, swelling and stiffness, neurological impairment, inability to concentrate, memory loss, vision changes, difficulty with speech or writing, ear pain, buzzing or ringing, seizures, light-headedness, poor balance, difficulty walking and Bell's Palsy, cardiac issues, irregular heartbeat, murmurs, and heart block.
How can you help? Please help us to help young Lyme disease patients receive the care and treatment they need and deserve. Become a distinguished member of the Kiwanis Pediatric Lyme Disease Foundation donors and take part in this important charitable work by purchasing a Brittany Fellowship, Level One Emerald, Level Two Emerald, or a Joseph Michael Wuest Award.
Thank you for taking the time to care and share.