

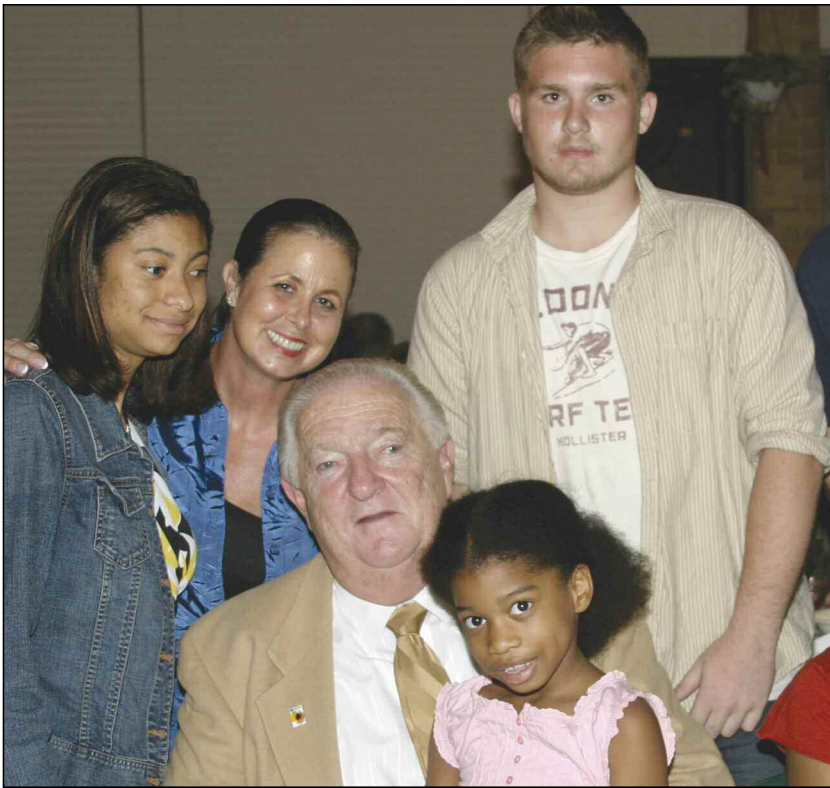
# Lyme Disease Fellowship Awards Presented to Bronx Division

The Pediatric Lyme Disease Foundation presented five Brittany Fellowship Awards to the Bronx Westchester South Division. Recipients were: DPLG Don Ciota, Brian Hickey, Robert Rubinstein, Vincent Pistone.

This special evening was highlighted with the presentation of \$54,000 to children suffering from Lyme Disease (photo on the right). The youngsters are from: Hewlett, Yorktown Heights, Queens Village, Mt. Cisco, Brooklyn, Levittown, Hartsdale, Millwood and East Meadow. The funds given will help defer some of the expensive treatments and medication these family have incurred.



**Lyme Board members Angie Politano and PG John Gridley present DPLG Don Ciota with his "Brittany."**



**Outgoing Lt. Governor Dennis Rosa passes the banner to Bronx Westchester South new Lt. Governor Palma Volino.**



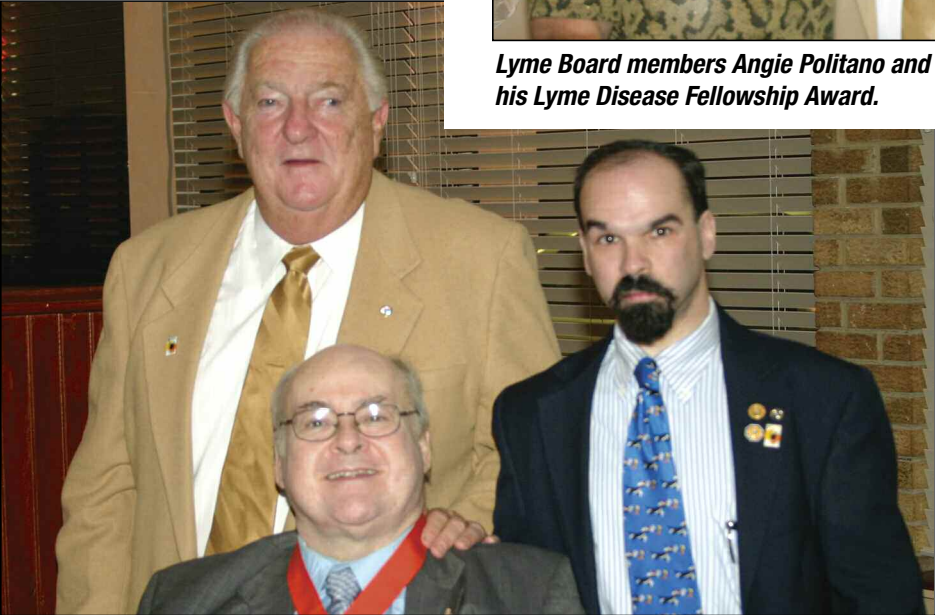
**BWS PR Chairman Claudia White, right, presents Ginnie Wuest with a wonderful scrapbook of momentous photos with the help of LG Palma Volino.**



**K-Kids Chair Mickie Leamey, DPLG Angie Politano and Former First Lady Rosemarie Gridley are Lyme Disease Board members.**



**Lyme Board members Angie Politano and PG John Gridley present Vincent Pistone with his Lyme Disease Fellowship Award.**



**PG John Gridley presents the "Brittany" Lyme Fellowship Award to Brian Hickey with the help of Brian's son Lt. Governor Elect Doug Hickey.**



**DPLG Robert Rubenstein, one of the Brittany Fellowship Award recipient.**



**Lyme Disease**  
John A. Gridley

Lyme disease is caused by bacteria transmitted by the deer tick (*Ixodes scapularis*). Lyme disease may cause symptoms affecting the skin, nervous system, heart and/or joints of an individual. Over 73,000 cases have been reported to the New York State Department of Health since Lyme disease became reportable in 1986.

### Who gets Lyme disease?

Lyme disease can affect people of any age. People who spend time in grassy and wooded environments are at an increased risk of exposure. The chances of being bitten by a deer tick are greater during times of the year when ticks are most active. Young deer ticks, called nymphs, are active from mid-May to mid-August and are about the size of poppy seeds. Adult ticks, which are approximately the size of sesame seeds, are most active from March to mid-May and from mid-August to November. Both nymphs and adults can transmit Lyme disease. Ticks can be active any time the temperature is above freezing. Infected deer ticks can be found throughout New York State.

### How is Lyme disease transmitted?

Not all deer ticks are infected with the bacteria that cause Lyme disease. Ticks can become infected if they feed on small animals that are infected. The disease can be spread when an infected tick bites a person and stays attached for a period of time. In most cases, the tick must be attached for 36 hours or more before the bacteria can be transmitted. Lyme disease does not spread from one person to another. Transfer of the bacteria from an infected pregnant woman to the fetus is extremely rare.

### What are the symptoms of Lyme disease?

In 60-80 percent of cases, a rash resembling a bull's eye or solid patch, about two inches in diameter, appears and expands around or near the site of the bite. Sometimes, multiple rash sites appear. The early stage of Lyme disease is usually marked by one or more of the following symptoms: chills and fever, headache, fatigue, stiff neck, muscle and/or joint pain, and swollen glands. If Lyme disease is unrecognized or untreated in the early stage, more severe symptoms may occur. As the disease progresses, severe fatigue, a stiff aching neck, and tingling or numbness in the arms and legs, or facial paralysis can occur. The most severe symptoms of Lyme disease may not appear until weeks, months or years after the tick bite. These can include severe headaches, painful arthritis, swelling of the joints, and heart and central nervous system problems.

### When do symptoms appear?

Early symptoms usually appear within three to 30 days after the bite of an infected tick.

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