

Help Us Solve  
The Cruel Mystery  
**LUPUS**<sup>TM</sup>

FOUNDATION OF AMERICA  
GEORGIA CHAPTER

6<sup>th</sup> Lupus Awareness Day  
February 13, 2013

**YOUR VOICE COUNTS! - Valuable Information for Meetings with YOUR Georgia Legislators**

We share some valuable information for your time at Lupus Awareness Day with the Georgia Chapter. You may only meet with any member of the legislature, or their staff, for possibly 1 - 3 minutes. **Any** constituents, relaying to their elected officials, **that they have taken a half day or even an hour**, to share how important the effects of lupus are to them and their families, is a very powerful message **to any and all** we may meet throughout the entire day's events!

***We are here to share why lupus matters and what lupus means to you! The exact time of the reading of the Lupus Resolutions in the House and the Senate, will be announced at the 9:00 am Chapter meeting. These should be between 10:00 a.m. and 2:00 p.m.***

There are a great many meetings going on today at the Capitol, if you cannot find your legislator in their office, we will try to call them out from the House and Senate floor with the call out sheets to be distributed by chapter staff. The following resources will be available to all volunteers in **room 216, the chapter's headquarters**:

1. Packets and registration cards with your name and your elected officials names, room numbers and phone numbers.
2. Laptop computers for any unregistered attendees to help them find their representatives
3. The session calendar with all bills and resolutions throughout the day, check the internal TV's throughout the Capitol for the progress throughout the day and the reading of **OUR resolution**.
4. Call Out sheets.
5. Postcards and lupus bracelets for all volunteers to distribute to legislators.

**Some key points**

- **Be sure to urge your legislators to JOIN US at the 12:00 pm Lupus Assembly (Media Rally) Capitol South Rotunda. BE SURE TO SHARE, that YOU** are a constituent of the representative/senator AND YOU would like a photograph with your legislator; a photo opportunity will be an incentive for them to join us!
- **Why we are here - because lupus matters. Why does lupus matter to you - tell your personal story** and how lupus has affected you and your family.
- **Lupus affects over 55,000 Georgians and over 1.5 million Americans.** Lupus is a major health issue that has significant impact on our state's economy, **one in five** lupus patients are on disability. A recent American College of Rheumatology paper estimates lupus results in an average, annual medical costs per patient between **\$20,000 and \$60,000** and an estimated **\$31.4 billion** cost to the nation.
- The effects on many families can be devastating, chronic, life long and life threatening, yet despite its prevalence, lupus remains one of the least recognizable and most misunderstood diseases in both the medical and lay communities. Lupus affects primarily young women in their crucial childbearing years but also men, children and women of all ages and can result in immeasurable physical, financial and emotional toll on many families in our state.
- We do not have any lupus legislation or appropriations this session, but we ask for their support for any future legislation or appropriations we may bring in future sessions.

**Maria Myler's cell 678-938-5568, Teri Emond's cell 404-542-9483 cell phones are limited in the capitol**