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It's official! The Myasthenia Gravis Foundation of Illinois is now known as Conquer Myasthenia Gravis (Conquer MG for short). With our new name and logo comes a new look for the MG Minute. So we introduce that to you with this issue!

We are so grateful to all who helped raise MG awareness and funds at the Strides Against MG Walk on June 5. You supported each other in hope, and had fun in the process. Let's take heart with the slogan used by Janet Bauer’s Family and Friends team, "Somewhere over the rainbow there's a cure for MG!"

Hoping your myasthenia gravis will be conquered,

Joan Wincentzen, Executive Director
The 4th Annual Strides Against MG Walk welcomed 250 participants on Sunday, June 5, at Berens Park in Elmhurst, Illinois. The walk raised $21,000 for Conquer Myasthenia Gravis, to fund the organization's programs of patient assistance, education, and support. (Conclude)

Click to see a selection of Walk pictures on our website. If you're on Facebook, you can view all the Walk photos on the Conquer MG Facebook page (and "like" us, too!)

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June: MG Awareness Month

During June, we raise the profile of myasthenia gravis among the public and health care professionals so individuals can get diagnosed sooner and treated more effectively.

In addition to the Strides Walk, Conquer MG volunteers walked in Memorial Day parades in Elmhurst and Aurora, Illinois. Thank you, Ben Maravilla and family, Kris Holste, Jean Geishecker, Dave Norquist, Brian Bailey, and Joe Kleinhenz!

Even though Linda Kelm is in MG remission, she raises awareness in her small town by wearing different MG t-shirts (like the one pictured) throughout the month.

Call 800-888-6208 if you'd like to order this year's walk shirt for $15. Limited quantities are available in Youth Medium and Men's S, L, 2X, and 3X.

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Who Needs to Know?
Raising awareness about MG often involves sharing your own MG story. Are there limits to whom you should tell? It helps to reframe the question: Why do they need to know?

You probably have a different answer for those closest to you, your healthcare team, school administrators, and your employer. *(Con nue reading)*

### Motorcycle Ride for MG

On September 4, 2016, MG advocate Kelly Lozada and the Chicago South Lan American Motorcycle Association (LAMA) will host a Chicago area "Motorcycle Ride for MG Awareness." Kelly and LAMA have designated Conquer MG as the ride charity. Event details will be forthcoming. We wish Kelly and her group a safe and successful event!

### Fashionably Ill - Jessica Gimeno

Since age 28, Jessica Gimeno has been sharing what it's like to cope with myasthenia gravis plus four other illnesses on her blog *Fashionably Ill: The Sick Woman's Stylist*. A gifted writer and speaker (watch her *Tedx Talk video* about getting stuff done when you're depressed), she helps people survive chronic illness with articles about friendship, creativity, trade-offs, and yes - fashion!

### Summer Heat Warning

For many MG patients, summer me heat makes muscles weaker. Read about ways to keep your cool (and your strength). *(Con nue Reading)*
**Patient Assistance Program**

Launched in 2014, Conquer MG's Patient Assistance Program will reimburse the cost of medical treatment and medication after all insurance payments are applied, up to $1,000 per person per year (to the extent funds are available). To qualify you must be an MG patient, be a resident of Illinois or Indiana, and submit proof of financial hardship. Costs do not have to be MG-related.

You can submit an application for funds once you have more than $200 in medical bills and paid pharmacy receipts. [Click for the application.](#)

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**Your gift is needed and appreciated!**

[DONATE]

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**Summer Support Group Meetings**

Want to get connected with others who understand your health issues? Stop by an MG support group meeting. [Details and directions](#)

**Chicago - Central**

Rush Univ Med Center

- Thursdays, July 7 & August 4, 1:30 p.m. Register with Eve Escalante at 312-942-8175

**Chicago - North Suburban**

Glenview

- Saturday, July 16. 11:00 a.m. (potluck picnic lunch)
- Tuesday, August 16, 9:30 a.m. (coffee chat)  **(New meeting location)**
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Location</th>
<th>Date and Time</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Chicago - South Suburban</td>
<td>Sunday, August 28, 1:30 p.m.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Blue Island</td>
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<tr>
<td>Chicago - West Suburban</td>
<td>Sunday, May 15, 1:00 p.m.</td>
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<td>Winfield</td>
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<td>Rockford, IL</td>
<td>Saturday, July 9, 1:00 p.m.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Springfield, IL</td>
<td>Sunday, July 17 &amp; August 21, 3:00 p.m.</td>
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<td>Schererville, IN</td>
<td>Saturday, July 30, 10 a.m.</td>
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<td>St. Louis Area, MO</td>
<td>Saturday, July 16, 10 a.m.</td>
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<td>Glendale</td>
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**Check Out Our Walk Sponsors!**

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- BDF Balasa Dinverno Foltz LLC