

# **Parkinson's Unity Walk**

**by Margie Swope**

My name is Margaret (Margie) Swope. I have Parkinson's Disease and Dystonia of the feet and legs. My husband and I have registered to participate in the upcoming 16th annual Parkinson's Unity Walk to be held in Central Park, New York, NY on April 24 th. My husband will once again be the engine for my wheelchair during the 2 mile walk. I wanted to make the Parkinson's Support Group of Brevard ( PSGB) aware of the event and offer you the opportunity to donate to a great cause.

The Unity Walk is a community, education, and fund raising event for the entire (National) Parkinson's Community. Almost all of the national resource foundations come together to sponsor the event. For example, Michael J. Fox, supports this event. All (100%) of the funds raised by this event go towards research to find a cure for this terrible disease. You can donate on behalf of a walker such as myself, make a donation in memory of someone, or make a general donation. Donations can be made via online links or by check. For those interested in paying by check, please contact me for assistance.

I am proud to represent ( PSGB) as a walker and will carry our Logo.

I know with the economy the way it is, it may be hard to donate. Please, any amount of money is truly appreciated. All of the monies collected go directly to research and it is tax deductible as the Parkinson's Unity Walk is a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization. I also ask for your prayers to find a cure for Parkinson's as it is a relentlessly progressive, debilitating, and often very painful disease.

The following links provide details on the event. The first link is for donating in my name as a participating walker, and the other link provides information about the event and how to donate.

<http://www.unitywalk.org/events/participant.php?memberID=3167&eventID=1>

<http://www.unitywalk.org>

I thank you from the bottom of my heart. If you would like to contact me to further discuss the event or Parkinson's Disease in general, please feel free to call me at 255-7179. Thank You and God Bless.

## **NPF - APDA Young Onset Conference**

March 12 - 13, 2010– Webcast or live from Sacramento, California. Meet experts who will talk about care and quality of life issues specifically for people with young onset Parkinson's disease.

Can't take a weekend to fly to Sacramento? Attend Live Webcast at no cost! With the webcast, you can listen to and interact with experts and people with young onset PD, all from your own home. Pre-registration is requested for the live Webcast, and can be completed via our web portal. The program is not strictly for younger people with PD, much of the information will pertain to people with PD of all ages

Go to <http://www.parkinson.org/yopc> for details.

The PSGB Executive committee met on 1/28/10 and took the following decisions: Ken Kirk will investigate a program on respite. Marge Swope's request to use the PSGB logo for the Unity Walk was approved. The group will conduct a survey to determine group needs. Don Wilcof has replaced Wanda Hizer as Treasurer.

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