



2024 Year in Review

(These are in no particular order.)

- ◆ Maintained 501(c)3 Non-Profit Status granted under Section 170, 2055, 2106, 2522. We also were granted an advanced ruling as a Public Charity.
- ◆ Filed Taxes.
- ◆ Registered to solicit in the states we were required to do so.
- ◆ Made all brochures & booklets that have bibliographies available – available online.
- ◆ Invited to several large professional medical conferences. Attend via Zoom when possible.
- ◆ Represented at the Annual Venous Disease Coalition Meeting.
- ◆ Represented at the American College of Rheumatology Annual Meeting
- ◆ Partially funded Research for APS ACTION
- ◆ Promoted APS iBook published by Laurent Phialy, Stephane Zuily, and Dourk Erkan
- ◆ Maintained EURORDIS membership
- ◆ Maintained membership with the Defense Health Research Consortium
- ◆ Networking with other Non-Profit Organizations and medical professionals.
- ◆ Maintained HONCode Certification on APS Foundation of America, Inc.
- ◆ Earned the GuideStar Exchange Seal: Platinum Participant. Only 0.5% of organizations have this rating.
- ◆ Attended CARRA Annual Scientific Meeting 2024
- ◆ Attended Thrombosis UK and International Society on Thrombosis and Haemostasias (ISTH) round table virtually in Montreal, Canada
- ◆ Continued June 9th as World APS Awareness Day.
- ◆ Continued June as APS Awareness Month.
- ◆ Participated in Deep Vein Thrombosis Awareness Month
- ◆ Participated in Lupus Awareness Month
- ◆ Participated in Stroke Awareness Month
- ◆ Participated in Heart Disease Awareness Month
- ◆ Participated in Autoimmune Awareness Month
- ◆ Participated in Rare Disease Day
- ◆ Participated in World Thrombosis Day with APS Awareness
- ◆ Continued collaborations with MoMMA's Voices
- ◆ Continued collaboration with Rare Disease Legislation
- ◆ Continued collaboration with EURORDIS
- ◆ Continued cooperation with CARRA on APS and Lupus
- ◆ Continued collaboration with the National Coalition of Autoimmune Patient Groups
- ◆ Participated in Pregnancy Loss and Stillborn Awareness Month
- ◆ Supported various legislation through a national coalition of patient organizations

- ◆ Attended National Coalition of Autoimmune Patient Groups Meeting
- ◆ Invited to and Participated in Chat with Thrombosis Experts, Medscape & Everyday Health on World Thrombosis Day
- ◆ Attended & Hosted a Booth at the Autoimmune Summit presented by the Autoimmune Association
- ◆ Collaborative work with Stago Diagnostics
- ◆ Started publishing Constant Contact Newsletter News Briefs
- ◆ Launched press releases – benefited at least 500,000 people.
- ◆ Launched Radio Public Service Announcements – benefited at least 2,000,000.
- ◆ Donated \$5,000.00 to APS ACTION for their ongoing research needs.
- ◆ Shared reputable articles about APS at the lay and professional level, as well as disease-related such as DVT, PE, stroke, Raynaud's, for example.
- ◆ Co-hosted an Antiphospholipid Syndrome Patient Round Table with Stago
- ◆ Shared reputable disease prevention articles.
- ◆ Shared inspiration and motivational posts.
- ◆ Maintained X (Formerly Twitter) Account. Followers: 2,729 Average Tweet Impressions per month: 15,000
- ◆ Maintained Instagram Account. Followers: 2,751 Average Reach: 56.4k
- ◆ Maintained Pinterest Account. Followers: 655
- ◆ Maintained Facebook Business Account. Likes: 12,765 Average Reach: 117.7k
- ◆ Maintained Facebook Support Group: Number of Participants: 3,226
- ◆ Maintained LinkedIn Group: Follows: 265
- ◆ Added Threads Account: Followers: 554
- ◆ Added BlueSky Account: Followers: 3
- ◆ Fundraisers:
 - Shopify Gift Shoppe
 - SparkGood - Walmart
 - Giving Tuesday
 - CafePress
 - Amazon Shop
 - Zazzle
 - Individual Fundraisers by Volunteers and Supporters
- ◆ Made Press in 21 different media venues that we are aware of – at least 5 million people benefited:
 - House, MD – “Instant Karma” (original air date, 10/15/09) – benefited at least 16,000,000 people.
 - Mystery Diagnosis – “Falling Through the Cracks” (re- aired several times, original air date, 3/6/2006) - unknown how many people benefited
 - Travelers - on Netflix, Season 2, Episode 9
 - The Beatles Network (APS Awareness month worldwide awareness.) unknown how many people benefited
 - Various Articles in various medical and newspapers.
 - [Downtown Kent restaurant hopes to keep doors open and co-founder's legacy alive](#)

- [Today is World APS Day](#)
- [ANTIPHOSPHOLIPID ANTIBODY SYNDROME](#)
- [Dana Ackerman Obituary \(2024\) - Buffalo Grove, IL - Goldman Funeral Group - Buffalo Grove Chapel](#)
- [KIRBY SHYER Obituary \(2024\) - Ridgefield, CT - New York Times](#)
- [Michelle Catherine Stapinski Pokrinchak](#)
- [Mr. Vincent S. "Vin" Maneen](#)
- [Terry Eugene Carter](#)

Recommendations:

- ◆ Continue to find more avenues for fundraising.
- ◆ Consider publishing quarterly newsletters instead of Constant Contact Newsletters.
- ◆ Continue to collaborate with more organizations (both lay & professional).
- ◆ Attend or have materials available for more conferences.
- ◆ Apply for more grants.
- ◆ Continue to search for more medical advisors and remove those who are not active.
- ◆ Continue to attempt APS, which is mentioned in more publications, including magazines.
- ◆ Continue to make more videos and learn how to make podcasts.
- ◆ Consider doing Facebook Live Chats or chats through Zoom/Meet. Donor to cover Zoom/Meet fees?
- ◆ Consider going to a Board of Directors of 7, including one medical advisor & one public non-APS person. We are currently a board of 4.
- ◆ Consider making June 9th World APS Awareness Day formally via a bill through Congress.
- ◆ Consider making June APS Awareness Month formally via a bill through Congress.
- ◆ Consider creating a scholarship fund for those going into the medical field.
- ◆ Consider making a formal Scholarship fund for APS Research.
- ◆ Consider spending the money to get professional press releases written and sent out at \$1000+ each.
- ◆ Consider working with the FDA and getting legislation to make a Black Box Warning regarding the Finger Stick Machines and APS since the vendors and manufacturers do not openly disclose this.
- ◆ Find dedicated volunteers willing to do social media from their homes.
- ◆ Find pro-bono Wisconsin Attorney
- ◆ Find a volunteer professional graphic designer/webmaster

2024 Year:

2024, the pandemic's aftereffects led to an economic slide. General fundraising was

affected because people could not afford the costs of essential goods, rent, gas, etc. In general, the priority was not donating. It was a record year, however, because of APS patients dying and those families & friends donating to APSFA.

We also had an issue with our webmaster being a no-contact/no response to any source of contact. We will have to find a new webmaster. There are portions of the website we can not update, leading to a server update issue. We may need to redo the website altogether because the webmaster has abandoned us.

Professional Growth:

Tina Pohlman attended New Insights in Diagnosis and Treatment of Antiphospholipid Syndrome on Wednesday, July 31, 2024, at 14:00 UTC.

Tina Pohlman attended Hormones, Blood Clots, and Heart Health: What's Menopause Got to Do with It? October 15, 2024, 7:00 pm-8:00 pm EST

Though we have found some classes at the University Extension of interest, we see saving the donated dollars for other things as prudent.