

# Lyme Disease Forum

Bergen Community College  
Technology Education Center (TEC) Room 128  
Paramus, NJ

7:00 pm Thursday May 29, 2008

Sponsored by Lyme Disease Association, Inc.

**ABOUT THE LYME DISEASE ASSOCIATION (LDA):** —The Lyme Disease Association (LDA) is a NJ-based national volunteer nonprofit that devotes ninety-eight percent of its funds to programs--funding research, education, prevention and patient support. LDA-has funded research projects coast to coast-some of which have been published in peer review including *Journal of the American Medical Association*, *Neurology*, *Infection*, and *The Proceedings of The National Academy of Science*.

Recognizing that the ability to find solutions involves a multi-disciplinary effort, the LDA has partnered with businesses, patient groups, celebrities, government, and the medical community to unlock the secrets of Lyme and other tick-borne diseases. LDA and Time for Lyme, its Connecticut affiliate, raised funds and collaborated with Columbia University to open an endowed Lyme disease research center there in New York in 2007.

LDA also has a fund for children with no insurance, LymeAid 4 Kids, initiated by internationally acclaimed author Amy Tan. LDA has been accepted as a PESP Partner with the Environmental protection Agency and is part of the 2008 Combined Federal Campaign. Additionally, LDA is working to support HR 741 (Smith NJ-4) in the US House of Representatives Health Subcommittee and S-1708 (Dodd CT) in the Senate HELP Committee. For more information go to [www.LymeDiseaseAssociation.org](http://www.LymeDiseaseAssociation.org).



*Lyme Disease Association, Inc.*

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Author Pamela Weintraub who is an editor at Discover Magazine, New York, in her first public discussion about her book, *Cure Unknown: Inside the Lyme Epidemic*

Attorney Elliot Pollack who has defended some of the premier Lyme treating physicians against charges related to long term treatment



Dr. Joseph Burrascano, whose own private journey has led him through the clinical, political, legal, and research aspects of the disease

President Pat Smith (LDA) whose own personal experience with Lyme disease led her to over 22 years of advocacy efforts to find a cure



## Panel Discussion

### **Pamela Weintraub**

An editor at Discover Magazine, Pamela Weintraub is a literary and investigative science journalist who specializes in health, biomedicine, and psychology. Formerly, she was a consulting editor at *Psychology Today*, executive editor at *MAMM* magazine, and has served as editor in chief of *OMNI* and staff writer at *Discover*. Weintraub has written hundreds of articles for many national publications, including *Redbook*, *Ms.*, *McCall's*, *Audubon*, and *Health*. She lives in Connecticut with her family.

### **Joseph J. Burrascano, Jr.**

A graduate of NYU, Joseph Burrascano, MD, is a Long Island internist who retired from private practice in 2006- long recognized as one of the foremost Lyme treating physicians in the world. He is currently a Director for the International Lyme & Associated Diseases Society and is working on research related to Lyme disease. He has authored many articles, papers and textbook chapters. He has addressed various Committees in Congress on Lyme disease and his copyrighted manuscript, *Diagnostic Treatment Guidelines for Lyme & Other Tick-borne Illnesses* is in its 15th addition.

### **Elliott B. Pollack**

A graduate of Columbia Law School, Elliott B. Pollack represents health care providers and commercial property valuation clients as a member of Pullman & Comley's Health Care Department and chair of its Property Valuation Department, Hartford, Connecticut. He frequently represents physicians in their regulatory, transactional, reimbursement, managed care and medical/legal affairs. He has been counsel for several Lyme physicians, including currently, Dr. Charles Ray Jones, whom he is defending against charges by the Connecticut State Medical Board for long-term Lyme disease treatment.

### **Patricia V. Smith**

A graduate of Monmouth College, Patricia (Pat) Smith has been Lyme Disease Association President for over 11 years, is a member of the Columbia Lyme & Tick-Borne Diseases Advisory Board and is advisor to Connecticut's Time for Lyme. She is former [NJ] Governor's Lyme Disease Advisory Council Chair, former Wall Township Board of Education President, and has been a Lyme advocate for 22 years. Published on Lyme and on education, she has testified before many government panels, committees, and hearings, and she has met with top officials in government including the CDC. Under her leadership, LDA has raised millions of dollars for Lyme research, prevention, and education.

### **7:00pm Opening Remarks & Personal Insights**

**Pat Smith, President, Lyme Disease Association, Moderator**

### **7:15pm Pamela Weintraub**

Veteran science journalist Pam Weintraub discusses CURE UNKNOWN, the first major journalistic examination of the Lyme wars and a dramatic narrative history of the epidemic from its earliest days. In her first public talk about her book, Weintraub will describe her personal journey and her six-year-long aggressive investigation into the dark waters of Lyme. She'll report some surprising new findings from the forefront of academia while also deconstructing the flawed science, hubris and moneyed interests that have led to the tragic landscape of Lyme and other tick-borne disease today.

### **7:30pm Dr. Joseph Burrascano, Jr.**

Dr. Burrascano tells about his initial involvement in Lyme disease, his 1992 testimony to Congress, followed almost immediately by the beginnings of a medical board inquiry, his insights on the Lyme crises, what he is doing today and how he sees the future.

### **7:45pm Attorney Elliott Pollack**

Elliott Pollack adds his voice and his experience to the Lyme wars, and he provides knowledge from his cases as he defends doctors against medical board charges. He shares his perspective on how the political situation has escalated, hurting doctors and patients alike, and useful insights to help doctors who are treating.

### **8:00pm Interactive Panel Presentation**

### **9:15pm Questions & Answers with Audience**

**Books will be available** for signing by Ms. Weintraub & for on site purchase (\$25) to benefit the Lyme Disease Association & Lyme research.