

## January 2002 -

The Deater Foundation, Inc. first acknowledges the shock and grief experienced by our country on September 11, 2001. We add our appreciation and gratitude to that of many others, for the caring and dedication of the relief workers. Many people, both locally and from around the nation provided toil and support in New York, Washington D.C. and Pennsylvania. Many others gave blood, money, and words of encouragement. Soldiers, sailors, air force and coast guard personnel, FBI, and CIA have faced danger and separation from loved ones, and will continue to do so. We are grateful for their efforts. We continue to pray that God's hand of protection will keep them safe as they serve our country.

For Deater Foundation, Inc. the year 2001 brought several highlights:

- The gene was identified! A publication in the prestigious journal Nature Genetics, by Drs. Khemissa Bejaoui and Bob Brown, explained the discovery of the actual gene that causes HSN-1. Their article was a companion to one published by Dr Garth Nicholson and his group from Australia. We greatly appreciate this rare collaboration between researchers which resulted in speeding up the identification of the gene.
- The first submission, by Dr. Khemissa Bejaoui, to the National Institutes of Health requesting a substantial three-year grant to study the disease was not approved. Funding is rarely granted on a first submission, and this application was no exception. The grant application will be revised and re-submitted on March 1, 2002. Please keep this effort in your prayers.
- Dr. Brown attended our reunion in July to present the news of the identification of the gene. He had long looked forward to being able to share this great success with the family.
- A luncheon to express appreciation to Dr. Brown, Dr. Bejaoui and those working on the project was held at the Day Lab on February 9. We chose this way to thank the entire team for their hard work and dedication to the research on the Deater disease, as well as to congratulate them for the discovery of the defective gene.
- A meeting was held at the Day Lab for researchers already involved in study of the identified gene. Because one of the suspected actions of the gene may have to do with skin integrity, dermatologists have been

studying this gene. Larry Deater joined the researchers and provided a skin biopsy for further study.

- Just recently Deater Foundation, Inc. received a used motorized wheelchair, donated by a faithful supporter (not related to the family) whose wife's relative recently passed away. We are eager to place it with someone in our family who needs it. Please let us know if you or someone in your family has need of this wheelchair.

Also, keep in mind that our next newsletter won't be distributed until the end of June. If you have any family news or an especially fond family memory that you would like us to consider including in that newsletter, please email [tcdor34@enter.net](mailto:tcdor34@enter.net) your idea(s). We would really like to see our DFI newsletter become more personal and interesting. You can help us by sending us your ideas. Thanks.

We are grateful, too, for your continued prayerful and financial support of Deater Foundation, Inc. Receipts are attached for those who made a contribution during the year 2001. Thank you again for your support. May God grant you good health and happiness throughout this New Year.