



# Nerve Center

Jan/Feb  
2005

Periodical Newsletter of the Pacific Northwest TNA Support Group  
Serving the Pacific Northwest Region of Oregon, Washington and Idaho

## Dear TNA Members,

This issue of Nerve Center has been abbreviated due to a recent shoulder injury I have which makes it very difficult for me to type. I know that you all understand how pain can hinder getting things done!

I had hoped to write in detail about the conference for those of you who weren't at the last meeting. However, the conference report from TNA will have far more details and info than I can possibly squeeze into a few newsletters. I will be happy to speak with any of you personally or via email if you require specific information that I picked up at the conference. Please see the ordering information for a **2004 TNA Conference Report**, and for ordering a copy of the new **"Striking Back" the Trigeminal Neuralgia and Face Pain Handbook**. Be sure to order yours now, it will be the best investment you can make! ~Ruthi Purchase



## Planning a Course of Action Against Pain

Our next **support group meeting** is **February 12<sup>th</sup>**, at **1:00pm**, at Legacy Meridian Hospital in Tualatin. This group will be geared for patients who are trying to plan a course of action to control their pain. We will gather in smaller groups to work on individual questions and help out members who are looking for direction with their medications, surgery, or complimentary treatment decisions. Supporting literature will be on hand. If you are pain-free and happy with your treatments – now is the time to make sense of it all, to share your experiences and help others in pain. If you are newly diagnosed or have ongoing pain – now is the time to get the help you need, from others who have gone before you. Family and friends are welcome to attend. *See you all there!*

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## Neuroscientist to Address Group in April

We are pleased to announce that **Thomas Baumann, Ph.D., Associate Professor of Neurological Surgery, Physiology, and Pharmacology at Oregon Health Sciences University (OHSU)**, will be speaking to our group at the **April 9<sup>th</sup> meeting**. Dr. Baumann is recognized world-wide as a most important researcher in the quest to learn about the inner workings of TN pain. His talk to the group, entitled *Trigeminal Neuralgia: Intra-operative and Laboratory Studies* was also presented at the 2004 TNA Conference in Orlando. Dr. Baumann will help us to understand the trigeminal nerve as he explains the findings of his research. In his presentation we will see the actual micro-neurographic recordings from inside the trigeminal ganglion as the cells become excited during TN attacks. Plan to attend this important talk and mark your calendars now. *P.S. We highly encourage you to invite your doctors to attend this meeting and learn from Dr. Baumann's remarkable work!*



## Conference Report & Striking Back Book

The **TNA 2004 Conference Report** consists of Over 70 pages of medical reports from the TNA 5th National Conference, held November, 2004 in Orlando, Florida. This professionally written report covers three days of presentations by leading healthcare professionals in the treatment of TN and related facial pain conditions. Topics include Diagnosis, Dental Implications, Medical Management, Surgical Procedures, Pain Management, and more. *\$13.00 w/ free shipping within the U.S.*

**Striking Back! The Trigeminal Neuralgia and Face Pain Handbook**. Published by TNA in 2004 and authored by George Weigel and Kenneth F. Casey, M.D. This is the highly anticipated, updated version of the book which has nearly doubled in size from 256 pages to 506! It is written in layman's terms, describes all aspects of TN and facial pain, and provides information and resources for patients, family, and medical professionals. A must-have guide for every facial pain patient! *\$24.95 plus shipping of \$4.00 economy or \$7.00 priority* (Order from TNA National on the website, by phone or by mail. See box insert on left. Checks & credit cards accepted.)



## 2005 Pacific NW TNA Meeting Schedule

*All are held on Saturdays from 1:00-3:30 - See map to location on back. February 12<sup>th</sup> - April 9<sup>th</sup> - June 18<sup>th</sup> - August 27<sup>th</sup> - October 22<sup>nd</sup> - December 10<sup>th</sup>*