

Tuesday, December 13 from 6-8 PM

(click links for more info!)

Survivor Author Roundtables

Kelly & Brad Marsh

[Love Stroke](#)

In *Love Stroke*, this young couple tell their story after Kelly suffered a stroke August 30, 2009. This memoir narrates the firsthand, chronological views from both the survivor and the primary caregiver, including their life before, the day everything changed, and the first two years of recovery. Kelly and Brad share personal trial-and-error insights from their journey, and they challenge some conventional medical wisdom about what is possible. They also give advice to friends and family on the best way to support their loved one and each other, and they offer useful lessons and resources.

Thomas G. Broussard, Jr.

[Stroke Diary](#)

Stroke and brain injury resulting in aphasia and losing the ability to read, write, or speak is a devastating disability. This primer provides an array of tools for aphasia therapy and rehabilitation that spur learning for recovery, and to regain those lost skills. On September 26, 2011, Tom Broussard, a recent Ph.D. with an emphasis on helping people with disabilities get work, experienced his stroke in the area of the brain called Broca's area rendering him unable to read, write or speak well. Aphasia, the impairment of language, was the result. He kept a diary using drawings, charts and graphic representations including using mostly real words that didn't make much sense. Losing his language meant losing his grammar and syntax. Writing his diary, recording his voice and studying his brain, he got his voice back in 11 months.

John Mott

[Grace Down Below](#)

"This book shows the inner strength of a man that is truly EMPOWERING!" -Natasha, owner of Natasha's Sweets. "John Mott is reflectively relating his own experiences to others who experience the grace of God. Being mindful of his past, John humbly stepped on to the world stage responding to God's calling. Equipped with the word of God and rhythm, if not a halo, John's writing is a true spiritual experience." -Gayle Peele, CEO of Center of Achievement. "John Mott is an amazing young man with drive, determination and faith. This book is his personal story of triumph. John is more than a survivor; he is a man also seeking to help others around the world who have suffered from a stroke." -Wanda L. Harrell, Author and Poet

Robert McPherson

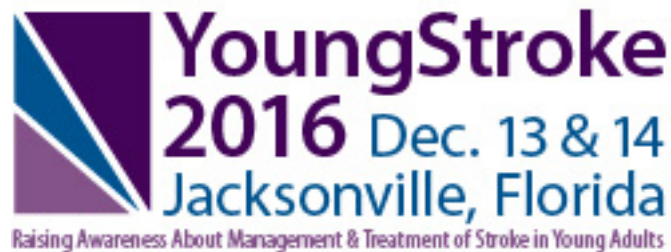
[White Collar Biker](#)

When retired executive Robert McPherson saddled his Harley Davidson Road King for a two thousand mile trip to the annual motorcycle rally in Sturgis, South Dakota, he didn't know that he was about to embark on a long journey into the unknown—from the curious world of biker culture to the majesty of the American countryside to the jaws of death itself. What he encounters along the way will test everything he thought he knew about life, America, and love.

Kara & Chris Russo

[But You Look So Normal...](#)

They were both twenty-something's living productive and successful lives when all of a sudden they were both struck by different types of brain injuries. Kara suffered a massive stroke. Chris was in a coma that left him paralyzed after a bout with meningitis and encephalitis. A big lesson the two learned while recovering is that while you may look normal on the outside, brain injuries affect you every day for the rest of your life. Today, Kara and Chris are living happily together with perhaps a full brain between the two of them in Sacramento, California.



Read the President of the World Stroke Organization's [open letter to the WHO](#) pleading to reclassify stroke as a circulatory disease in ICD-11.

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***** VISIT EXHIBITORS *****

[Mallinckrodt](#) - [E*TRADE](#) - [Mayo](#) - [Voices of Hope](#) - [Mirrored Motion Works](#) - [Allm](#)

Commercial Demonstrations, 6 o'clock – 7 o'clock

Allm launches next-generation technologies and medical communications platforms for the healthcare industry.

Mirrored Motion Works creates devices and services to rehabilitate the upper limb function in patients with stroke.

Poster Presentations, 7 o'clock – 8 o'clock

How to Live Better: Find (or Make) Your Own Group of Supporters

The purpose of this poster presentation is to highlight the importance of social networks for young stroke survivors and recommend tips for finding or creating your own social group.

Jackie Hinckley, Executive Director and Mike and Kathy Caputo, Founders of Voices of Hope for Aphasia, St. Petersburg, Florida

Identifying Need for Supported Employment for Working Age Stroke Survivors: A Pilot Study; and Using Deficit Scores to Identify Need for Supported Employment for Working Age Stroke Survivors

The purpose of these poster presentations is to highlight vocational outcomes of young stroke survivors returning to work along with the feasibility of using a deficit scoring model to predict vocational outcomes.

Elizabeth Apple, Carolina Healthcare System and [Young Stroke Survivors Global Network](#), Charlotte, North Carolina

Discussion Roundtables

6:00 - Raise Visibility *Nate Sankary, Kara Russo, Laura Greer and Jamie Hancock* desire to share how to engage, promote and support YoungStroke's initiatives to *be visible* via social media, newsletter and community outreach.

6:30 - Peer Sponsors *Leigh Kost* of Los Vegas discusses the development of a young stroke peer sponsor program.

7:00 - AFO Satisfaction *Jennifaye V. Brown* of Ohio University will discuss a future research project about use, likes and dislikes of ankle foot orthoses (foot braces).

7:30 - Genetics *Toni Pollin & Steven Kittner* of the University of Maryland School of Medicine desire to strategize with stakeholders interested in genetics.