

Dan's Expression of Gratitude and Surgical Update

By Dan Tousley
NYRWA Circuit Rider III



Having done so many times privately, I would like to publicly thank and praise my Lord and Savior, Jesus, for the outcome of my recent hospitalization and surgery. Many of you folks know, as evidenced by the out pouring of cards and prayers, I was recently diagnosed with a cancerous growth on and equal in size to my left kidney and adrenal gland. Further assessment of my cat scans revealed that the tumor was indeed growing up a major blood vessel, another indication of cancer. Originally, we had considered laparoscopic surgery, but with the Doc's concern about releasing blood clots, it was decided to do conventional open surgery. (This is the kind where they put you on a rotisserie and fire up the chainsaw. Well, it sure seems that way!) One kidney and adrenal gland less and cut almost in half, I'm afraid I might dogtrack when I return to a normal life.

I am truly humbled by the way the family at New York Rural Water Association, Office Staff, Field Staff, and Board Members alike, drew together offering their prayerful remembrance and support whenever and wherever it was needed. Many of the extended family (you folks) did the very

same. I would like to extend a warm, heartfelt Thank You to each and every one of you. Your prayers and kindness were genuinely felt by MaryLee and I.

As I said, several competent and highly qualified doctors were convinced my condition was indeed cancerous and were even considering trying a new post operative cancer treatment in my case. My God, being the Master Physician, had decided differently. When the pathology report on my tumor came back, the tumor was benign, completely cancer free! Praise The Lord!

The doctor said that a biopsy might have shown a benign result wherein the tumor could have had cancerous cells on the back side which would have gone undetected depending simply on a biopsy. Removal was the answer, and "No Jamie, they are not going to put the kidney back!" He also wanted to know if I had chased the nurses while in the hospital and I proudly answered that indeed I had but I went so slowly they didn't even know I was after them!

Recovery is going slower than I'd like, and quite painful, but I expect to be back on site with you folks by the first of November.

Again, thanks to each of you and Praise God!

Sincerely, Dan Tousley, Circuit Rider, NYRWA ♠