

Autism Action

MAY/JUNE 2002

Upcoming Chapter Events

Support Group Meetings

Thursday, May 2nd at 6:30

Teacher Appreciation Night

Bring your child's favorite, therapist and/or tutor for a special tribute and thanks to those who work so hard to improve the lives of persons with autism. Please RSVP 619-298-1981



Thursday, June 6th at 6:30

Speakers—Bobbie Kohrt & Mary Lou Evans

Support Group Meeting Location

TMI Building
4740 Murphy Canyon Road, San Diego

From I-15 take the Clairemont Mesa Blvd exit and go west. Go south (left) on Murphy Canyon Road. TMI will be .4 miles down on the west (right) side of the street

Pool Party

Friday, May 10th

6:00—8:00 pm

Join families and professionals within the San Diego Autism Community to socialize and network while having fun in a safe, secure environment. The chapter will provide pizza and drinks. There are showers and locker room facilities adjoining the indoor, heated pool area. The whole family is invited to swim with their children!

Pool Party Location

Boys & Girls Club
4635 Clairemont Mesa Blvd, San Diego

Located between Genesee Avenue and I-805. Parking & entrance is in rear.

Thanks you Tammy Lee of Aqua Pros Swim School for making this event possible!

INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

SDASA Meetings	1
President's Message	1
For Your Information	2
Resource Information	3
Membership	4

The San Diego Autism Society is a member of the Combined Health Agencies and the Combined Federal Campaign

President's Message

Thank you to everyone who participated and supported the hugely successful Casino Night 2002! The event was very well attended and a good time was had by all. But the evening wasn't all about fun and games. Everyone in attendance was there to demonstrate their support of Camp I CAN!

It was only ten years ago that autism was thought to be a rare disorder affecting only 1 in 10,000 persons. And just five years ago, researchers estimated that 1 in 500 individuals had autism. Today, researchers believe this number may be closer to 3 in 500. Which equates to as many as 1.5 million individuals in the United States that have some form of autism today. It is estimated that autism is increasing at the rate of 10 to 17 percent each year; faster than any other disability or disease. At this rate, by the end of this decade autism will surpass mental retardation as the most common developmental disability.

In a recent report, the California Department of Developmental Services (DDS) stated the number of individuals diagnosed with autism served by the state's Regional Centers doubled during the four years between 1987 and 2001. And this year it is estimated that over 22,000 individuals with autism will receive services from Regional Centers. The DDS also reported that of the nearly 18,000 clients with autism currently in the system, approximately 60% of this group is under the age of 11 years. In fact, 2 out of 3 persons currently served by Regional Centers are between the ages of 1 and 13 years.

The mission of the Autism Society of America is to help all individuals within the autism spectrum to be fully participating, included members of their community. Camp I CAN is designed to accomplish exactly that. Camp I CAN will provide a rare opportunity for autistic children to share in the simple pleasures that many other children take for granted.

On behalf of the Autism Society of America, I thank everyone who participated in Casino Night 2002. Thank for helping our kids to beat the odds!

Greg Fletcher, President SDASA

For Your Information

The **Autism Society of America** will host its annual conference from July 17-21, 2002. The conference theme will be *Champions and Challenges* and will be held at the Marriott Hotel in Indianapolis, Indiana.



Registrations are now being accepted. Early bird registrations are due by March 30. For registration information email: conference@autism-society.org



The SDASA extends its congratulations to **Shirley Fett** for her selection as the Chapter's Combined Health Agencies Volunteer of the Year. Shirley will be recognized at the CHAD Annual Meeting



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The SDASA sends out periodic announcements via e-mail. If you'd like to join the **SDASA e-mail list** please send a message to SanDiegoASA@aol.com.



Community Advisory Committee for Special Education (CACSE) for the San Diego Unified SELPA meetings will be held May 9th and June 13th from 7:00-9:00pm at Lindbergh-Schweitzer School in the WEST Auditorium. For more information visit www.CACSE.org



The next **Parent Support Group** meetings for San Diego Unified will be:

- May 10th: "Celebrating Mothers' Day"
 - May 24th: "Ready for Summer: Make-it, Take-it ideas"
- Meetings are held from 9:30—11:00 at Whittier Center, Room B-28, 3401 Clairemont Drive, San Diego. Childcare available. Please call to reserve a space. Bobbie Kohrt 858-490-8520 or Mary Lou Evans 858-490-8519



Sensory Resources presents **Early Intervention for Sensory Integration** May 17th at the San Diego/Del Mar Hilton Hotel. For more information call 1-888-357-5867

2-Day PECS Training Workshop developed by Andrew S. Bondy, PhD., & Sarah Buswell, MS, CCC/SLP will be held October 29-30, 2002 in San Diego, CA. This workshop is intended for parents, professionals, and supportive staffs who deal with autism, and want to learn to implement the Picture Exchange Communication System (PECS) For more information contact Pyramid Educational Consultants, Inc: 888-732-7462 or email edimaio@pecs.com or visit www.pecs.com



The **San Diego County Learning Disabilities Association (LDA)** is presenting a **two-part workshop** to assist the parent of public and private school students in getting help for their children who are experiencing difficulty in school. Part 1—**"School Problems: How to Get Help for Your Child"** will be held on and May 21 and June 17. Part 2—**"The IEP Process"** will be held on May 28 and June 24. The two part workshop registration fee is \$25. Contact the Resource Center 858-467-9158.

Endorsement Policy

The Autism Society of America does not endorse individual programs. References appearing in the Autism Action regarding programs, resources, treatment, etc. should not be interpreted as an indication of endorsement by the Autism Society of America. They are provided for information only.

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www.sandiegoautismsociety.org

Resource Information

Support Groups

Autism Society of America, North County Chapter Meets 4th Monday of each month, 7:00 pm at the Well Being Center, 270 El Camino Real, Encinitas. Merryn Affleck 760-479-1420 www.zweb.com/northsdasa

Autism of Imperial County George McFadden 760-353-3191

Autism Parent Support Group "Coffee Klatch" Meets 10:00 am on the 3rd Wednesday of the month, Earthblend Coffee Shop 6020 Santo Road, Tierrasanta. Val Saraf 858-571-0842

East County Children's Disability Council Focuses on children with physical, developmental and emotional disabilities, ages 0-22 years and the community they live in. Janet Light 619-465-2288

EFRC & HOPE Infant Family Support Group. Meets Thursdays 9:30 am (English); Fridays 9:30 am (Spanish) 276 Church Avenue, Suite B Chula Vista Mary Sebastyn 858-569-5370

Families & Autistic Children Together Succeed (FACTS) Cheryl Cisneros 909-302-5532 Fax 909-693-5695, P.O. Box 89-0685 Temecula, CA 92589-0685

Fragile X Resource Center of San Diego Meets 2nd Tuesday every other month at Children's Hospital. Cindy de Gruchy 619-697-6486 cdegruchy@aol.com

Parent Advocates Seeking Solutions (PASS) Parents of adult children with disabilities. Meets 3rd Thursday of each month, St. Bartholomew's Episcopal Church, 16275 Pomerado Rd, Poway. Beverly Andreos 858-748-2594

Parent Support Group for the Resources for Students with Autism Program of San Diego Unified Schools. Bobbie Kohrt or Mary Lou Evans 858-490-8520

Supporting Parents of Autistic Young Adults (SPAYA) Meets every 4th Wednesday, 5-7 pm San Diego Regional Center, Room 101, 4355 Ruffin Road. Sophia 858-560-7376 SPAYA@prodigy.net

Sociedad Hispana de Autismo y PDD Meets 3rd Thursday of each month, 6:30-8:30 pm Stein Center, 647 E Street, Chula Vista. Bricia Moreno 619-563-8695 or Soledad Acevedo 011-5266-30-14-11

Understanding Autism Together Meets 3rd Monday of each month 6:30 pm, Pediatric Conference Room Building 2-1 of the Naval Medical Center. Dr. Leavell 619-532-7291 or ASYMCA 619-532-8156

Information & Resources

Autism Society of America, National Organization 7910 Woodmont Ave. Suite 300 Bethesda, MD 20814 1-800-328-8476 www.autism-society.org

Autism Society of California P.O. Box 1295 Escondido, CA 92033 1-800-700-0037 ASAASC@aol.com

Autism Research Institute Research center, publishes quarterly journal, information packet on autism. Bernard Rimland, Director 4182 Adams Ave. San Diego, CA 92116 619-281-7165 www.autism.com/ari

Exceptional Family Resource Center Provides information & education for families of children with various disabilities. 9245 Sky Park Ct. Suite 130 San Diego 800-281-8252 Also: 1001 Fern St. Imperial Beach 619-423-8127

Kids Included Together (KIT) Assists children with disabilities to be included in community recreation and social programs. 858-794-8154

Protection and Advocacy, Inc (PAI) Non-profit agency for protection of individuals with disabilities. 800-776-5746 www.pai-ca.org

Services

Auditory Integration Training Terrie Silverman, MS Conducts sessions several times a year in San Diego 858-278-9534

Children's Hospital and Health Center—Autism Intervention Center Provides parent training, professional workshops and inclusion services. Aubyn Stahmer, PhD 858-966-7453

I Can Too Learning Center Offers behavioral intervention for children with autism between 2-6 years. Kevin Dotts 760-815-4800 www.icantoolc.com

Lawrence Family Jewish Community Center Inclusion Program Offers recreation an social programs for children with special needs 858-457-3030 ext 222

Lindamood-Bell Learning Processes Learning Center 445 Marine View Drive, Suite 290, Del Mar CA 92014 858-259-3206

Pacific Therapy Angela Desideri, Director/Speech-Language Pathologist, 2801 Camino Del Mar #1 Del Mar, CA 92014 858-442-3071

San Diego Park & Recreation Disabled Services Program Organized activities for various age groups. Siblings & friends welcome. 619-525-8247 Fax 619-533-3930

San Diego Regional Center Information, referral, evaluation and advocacy services for the developmentally disabled. 4355 Ruffin Rd. Suite 204 San Diego, CA 92123 858-576-2996

Socialization Training and Reinforcement (STAR) Program. Afterschool social skills program. Dr. Linda Collins 858-292-6788

Team of Advocates for Special Kids (TASK) Workshops and advocacy training for parents 858-874-2386

UCSD Autism Research Laboratory Pivotal Response Training 858-534-6144

Educational Resources

Community Advisory Committee (CAC)

San Diego 858-578-3148

Poway 858-748-0010, 858-679-2534

California Department of Education, Special Education Division 916-445-4613. Parent Information Line 800-434-2465 www.cde.ca.gov/spbranch/sed

Hope Infant Family Support Program 858-292-3700 Fax 858-569-5394

San Diego City Schools Special Education Programs Division www.sdcs.k12.ca.us/specialed

Special Education Local Planning Areas (SELPA):

East County 619-590-3920

North Coastal 760-471-8208
North Inland 760-788-4611

Poway 858-748-0010

San Diego 619-225-3606

South County 619-498-8171

Special Education Parent Facilitators
Poway 858-748-0010

San Diego 858-573-5954

South County 619-498-8171

See something that needs updating?

Please let us know!

