

ASGC Newsletter

From The President's Desk

Dear ASGC Members,

September is upon us and for many of our members, school is back in session for our children. For those of us with children with ASD, it can be particularly stressful. The uncertainty of a new school or teacher is daunting enough. What about the IEP? Is it enough? Will it be followed?

Knowing what to expect as a parent-advocate is crucial in our missions to provide the very best for our child with special needs. Our September speaker should be of assistance in helping you get the important questions answered. She is Judith Saltzman of the law firm of Hickman and Lowder, and she will inform us about changes in the law as they apply to IEP's and how to improve your performance as a parent-advocate for your child. We hope you can join us.

Our sincere thanks go out to the incredible Sondra Williams for her presentation at our August meeting. Her insights as an autistic adult and as a mother of autistic children

ASGC Meeting Time & Place

The ASGC meets the first Wednesday of every month at 6:30 pm in room 8 of the St. Basil Parish Center in Brecksville. The next meeting is September 6.

Anyone who is affected by, has a loved one affected by, or just wishes to learn more about autism or autism spectrum disorders is welcome to attend.

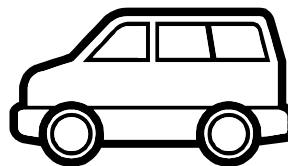
were both educational and inspirational. We hope to see Sondra again soon.

Our strategic planning process continues, as does our quest for feedback. Thank you to the many that have logged on to www.asgc.org and participated in our survey. We encourage you to do so if you haven't already. We are collecting feedback from parents, service providers, first responders and legislators. Thanks for your help. Your opinion counts!

Our car show is quickly approaching! If you or someone you know has a car to show off, September 9th is the big day from 10am to 6pm in the parking lot of Best Buy on Routes 82 and 8 in Macedonia. Come and join us for the fun. Thank you for your support as we work each day to improve the lives of those with ASD and their families.

Sincerely,

Gus Gallucci
and
Rory McLean



Please see page 2 for additional information on the Rev it up for Autism! Classic Car Show.

Autism Society of
Greater Cleveland

September 2006

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Autism Society of Greater Cleveland Officers

Rory McLean
President

Gus Gallucci
Vice President

Maureen Ferfolia
Secretary

We can be reached
at:
(216)556-4937

REV IT UP FOR AUTISM CLASSIC CAR SHOW

The mission of the Autism Society of Greater Cleveland is to promote lifelong access and opportunities for individuals with autism and their families, through support, public awareness, and education.

Saturday, September 9, 2006

10 am — 6 pm

Rain or Shine

Best Buy Macedonia

470 E. Aurora Rd.

Routes 82 & 8

330-468-6850

Featuring our 2nd Annual Car and Bike Show

Raffles, Door Prizes and Lots of Fun for

Children of all ages...

Join us and vote for your favorite Car and Bike Entry!

Entries available at the Macedonia Best Buy or by

Email — support@ascg.org

All entries can be dropped off at Best Buy Macedonia or sent to:

ASGC: Post Office Box 41066

Brecksville, Ohio 44141

*All proceeds not going to prize winners will be donated to the
Autism Society of Greater Cleveland.*

Please Join us

Bring the whole family

Be part of a Special Day

Special Cars

Special Bikes

And

VERY SPECIAL PEOPLE—YOU!

Admission is free!

Entries are only \$5 per vehicle \$5 suggested donation

For more information call:

216-556-4937 or

support@ascg.org

Autism Society of America
North Central Ohio Chapter #580

www.ncoc-asa.org

2006 Meeting Schedule

September 12th - Kerry Agins, Attorney & Partner at Nessa G. Siegel. We will be discussing No Child Left Behind and it's incorporation into IDEA. The sub-components: HQT, use of peer reviewed research in teaching, student achievement and testing. Ms. Agins has presented for us before and is an excellent speaker. She was recently named a "Rising Star" by Law & Politics' Ohio Super Lawyer Magazine.

October 10th - Director and Staff, Monarch School & Boarding Academy; Shaker Heights, Ohio. They will give our group an overview of the programs and services available to our children. The first hour will cover their programs. The second hour will be a question and answer session.

November 14th - Lisa Audet, Ph.D., CCC-SLP. Associate Professor, Speech Pathology & Audiology @ Kent State. She is an expert in autism as it relates to language, behaviors and solutions. Topic still being determined.

December 12th - Dr. Phillip Demio, DAN Doctor, author, & accredited national speaker. Dr. Demio has been in practice for 20+ years and focuses on the medical testing and treatment of children with autism. He also has a child with an autism spectrum disorder. Topic still being determined.

Everyone is welcome to attend our meetings. The meetings are from 7-9pm @ the Avon Lake Public Library, 32649 Electric Blvd., the second Tuesday of every month. It is always FREE and NO registration is required. Members arrive early to borrow a book from our lending library. NO childcare is provided.

Do you have a child with autism? Are you currently pregnant?
Then this study might be right for you!

You are invited to participate in an important research study. This study will follow women, who already have a child with autism, through a pregnancy to learn more about early signs of autism and its potential causes.

What will be involved?

- * Collection of blood, hair, saliva and placenta samples
- * Telephone interviews, questionnaires and a pregnancy diary
- * Medical record reviews
- * Total compensation of up to \$200 for completing the study

Please call the Learning and Developmental Disabilities Evaluation and Rehabilitation (LADDERS) Program, Massachusetts General Hospital, at 781-449-6074 ext. 1245 or contact us via e-mail at jsulman@partners.org if you are interested in learning more.

The new school year is here! **Schools require that students be immunized.** In Ohio, exceptions to this can be made on medical, philosophical or religious grounds.

Under Ohio Revised Code Section 3313.671 A(3) Required Immunizations; Exceptions

"(3) A pupil who presents a written statement of the pupil's parent or guardian in which the parent or guardian objects to the immunization for good cause, including religious convictions, is not required to be immunized."

Obtaining an exception from immunizations is as simple as providing a written statement, signed by the parent or guardian, to the school objecting for good cause, which would be given.

For more information, visit:
<http://www.909shot.com/state-site/Ohio.htm>

Upcoming Workshops

UNDERSTANDING TESTS AND ASSESSMENTS

SEPTEMBER 14 from 10:00 am - NOON

WITH FEATURED SPEAKER:

MICHELLE RONE-DEPOLO, PSY.D

REGISTRATION IS FREE, BUT SPACE IS LIMITED

TO REGISTER CALL 216-289-4332

SEMINAR WILL BE HELD AT SES OFFICES

27900 EUCLID AVE, SUITE 210

CLEVELAND, OHIO

STUDENTS WITH EMOTIONAL DISTURBANCES:

IDENTIFICATION, TREATMENT AND DISCIPLINE

PRESENTERS INCLUDE **VANESSA JENSEN PSY.D., KATHERINE NORDAL, PH.D.**

and **FRANKLIN J. HICKMAN, ESQ.**

NOVEMBER 13

AT WINDOWS ON THE RIVER IN THE POWERHOUSE

ALL DAY SEMINAR

CALL CUYAHOGA BAR ASSOCIATION at 216-621-5112

FOR REGISTRATION AND FEE INFORMATION

SPECIAL EDUCATION DISPUTE RESOLUTION IN OHIO

October 31 from 9:30 am - NOON

SEMINAR WILL BE HELD AT SES OFFICES

27900 EUCLID AVE, SUITE 210

CLEVELAND, OHIO

REGISTRATION IS FREE, BUT SPACE IS LIMITED

TO REGISTER CALL 216-289-4332

UNDERSTANDING EARLY CHILDHOOD SERVICES FOR CHILDREN WITH SPECIAL NEEDS

September 21 from 10:00 am - Noon

The Achievement Center for Children

4255 Northfield Road

Highland Heights, OH 44128

There is no fee for this seminar!

CALL SPECIAL EDUCATION SERVICES TO REGISTER

216-289-4332

Storymovies is first in series, covers social concepts and skills at school

Imagine combining Carol Gray's social stories with the power of video for our visual learners. That is what has happened with the collaboration between Carol Gray, Mark Shelley, and the Special Minds Foundation. Volume 1 is the first in the planned series and covers basic social concepts & skills at school. Future volumes will address a broad range of topics and target young children to adults. The foundation has raised donations to help produce these materials, so that the cost to the user can be much lower than otherwise possible for the product.

The Social Concepts & Skills volume will not only be valuable for teachers, but also for parents helping to prepare their children for school situations. Additionally, some of the situations are issues for both home and school. The product was designed for children with Aspergers and others on the autism spectrum, however it will also benefit any child with limited social skills.

Storymovies, Volume 1, targets students developmentally 8-12 years old and includes 25 stories based on 9 movies. There are two versions: Standard Edition & Professional Edition. Both versions include the main color version DVD of the 25 stories and a user's guide. The Professional

version includes a black & white DVD version that is used for children distracted by color; a raw footage DVD that is useful for additional teaching and testing purposes, and a CD with printable pictures and related activities for generalization, practice, and review.

Mark Shelley is a parent of a child with Aspergers, which is the reason for his efforts toward helping children learn social skills. Mark and I started talking about digital video based social stories about four years ago. Through much of his effort and sacrifice he now has this first important volume with more on the way. The collaboration with Carol, getting donors to help fund the development, and taking significant personal risk have all been critical in getting to this point. I want to help get this in the hands of as many teachers and parents as possible by substantially cutting our margins and offering this tool at a 33% discount off of list. The sales of the current volume will help fund the continued expansion of the series. Please spread the word about this important work!

For more information visit:

www.dttrainer.com/storymovies.html

“Increasing the Success of Employees with Disabilities in the Workplace”

Friday, November 17, 2006

The Ohio State University Campus

Columbus, Ohio

Featured Presenters:

John Finch, Vice President Rehabilitation & Employment, Center of Vocational Alternatives (COVA), Columbus, Ohio

L. Scott Lissner, Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) Coordinator, The Ohio State University, Columbus, Ohio

Matthew D. Miko, Chief Legal Counsel, Ohio Civil Rights Commission, Columbus, Ohio

Jane Perry, Ohio Legal Rights Service, Columbus, Ohio

Mark Raderstorf, Licensed Psychologist and President, Behavioral Medical Interventions, Minneapolis, Minnesota

Pre-registration will be required.

Registration materials will be sent at a later date.

For more information contact:

Andrea Cooper, ADA Coordinator's Office, The Ohio State University

By e-mail at cooper.437@osu.edu

By phone at voice (614) 292-6207 tty (614)-688-8605
fax (614) 688-3665

By mail at 2054 Drake Center

1849 Cannon Drive; Columbus, OH 43210-1266

ADA-OHIO (The Americans with Disabilities Act)

700 Morse Road, Suite 101

Columbus, OH 43214

800-ADA-OHIO (800-232-6446)

800-ADA-ADA1 (800-232-2321) TTY

614-844-5537 FAX

adaohio@aol.com

<http://www.ada-ohio.org/>

ADA-OHIO is a nonprofit 501(c)(3) organization.

Nami Stark County Presents Hand-to-Hand

Hand-to-Hand is a **FREE**, nine-week education program designed to foster learning, healing and empowerment among parents and families of children with emotional/mental/neurobiological disorders. This course, developed by AMI of Greater Toledo, is taught by professionals and family members who are part of NAMI. The course is dedicated to aspects of having a child with a mental illness. Topics covered include:

- understanding your child's diagnosis
- developing family coping skills
- counseling and therapy
- medications
- special educational needs
- juvenile justice and child protection agencies

Guidance is given on locating appropriate support and services within the community and obtaining better mental health services. Advocacy for appropriate federal and state policies is also included.

The course is free, but registration is required.

Wednesdays, September 20 through November 15

9:30 am -11:30 am

Stark County District Library - North Branch

189 – 25th Street NW

Canton, OH 44709

PLEASE CALL 330-492-0531

Train-the-Trainer Autism Academy to be held September 26th and 27th

This train-the-trainer Autism Academy has had an overwhelming success in all areas of Ohio. It will be available in the Southeast region of Ohio. Like the Autism Academy's before, it will fill up quickly.

Autism Academy Frontier Extension

(College Credit and CEU's will be available for the Training)

This is a two-day session of intense training for staff working with individuals with autism. The sessions will be taught by Janice Cline and Dustin Watkins from Bittersweet Farms.

These sessions are sponsored by the Ardmore Foundation in conjunction with the Crest Network, Bittersweet Farms and the host agency Buckeye Community Services..

Where: Buckeye Community Services

190 Twin Oaks Drive

Jackson, OH 45640

(740)286-5039 Registration info is below

When: September 26 and September 27

Time: Registration at 8:00 am. Starts promptly at 8:30 am and ends at 4:30 pm both days.

Why: There is an extremely important need for training direct-care staff working with individuals with autism. This training will involve many aspects that can guide direct-care staff in training individuals with autism as well as answer questions that staff may have when it comes to autism and its characteristics.

Intent: The intent is to help those assisting individuals with autism "as well as other individuals with similar challenges."

Cost is only \$195.00 and an additional \$45.00 if the participants wish to purchase the manual. Optional Box lunches will be delivered and will cost extra as the session will be conducted through lunch. The box lunches cost about \$6.

There are only 30 openings for this event.

Presented by Janice Cline, M.S., CCC-SLP and Dustin Watkins, C.R.C.T.

Contact person: Mike Noe, coordinator of Autism Services Ardmore Inc. (330) 535-2601 ext 3333

Deadline for registration is September 19th, 2006

"The Puzzle of Autism"

A recent publication of the National Education Association (NEA) that the ASA had collaborated on. Entitled "The Puzzle of Autism", it is intended as an introduction to ASD's for educators, and really is a quite well done publication. It was just put out earlier this year. To download a copy of the publication, visit:
<http://www.nea.org/specialed/images/autismpuzzle.pdf>

While you're visiting the site, there are many other valuable resources downloadable from the NEA - online tools for writing IEPs, info on assistive technology, IDEA guidelines in an understandable format - just to name a few. Visit:

<http://www.nea.org/specialed/nearesources-specialed.html>

Law enforcement, first response agencies offered National Safe and Sound Training

ASA's first of many National Safe and Sound trainings will began in Minneapolis, MN. The trainings utilize lecture, video and fully interactive discussions over two days focusing on: the definition of autism and common behaviors and characteristics; autism recognition and first response; public safety issues; criminal justice issues; initial contact options; establishing communications; behavioral de-escalation techniques; restraint and arrest options; perpetrator and victim trends; dilemmas in interrogation and interview settings; prosecution and court room issues; working proactively with families; advocacy organizations and school systems, and creating an effective training program and cross-educational opportunities for first responders and persons who have autism.

This training can help law enforcement and first response agencies to become compliant to the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA), increase officer and citizen safety, enhance officer communication and response skills, save valuable time and resources, avoid litigation, and build community partnerships.

Please note: The training is appropriate for patrol and investigative law enforcement professionals, law enforcement training officers and supervisors, school resource officers, crisis intervention team members, juvenile justice and victims rights specialists, correctional officers, prosecutors, judicial and forensic criminal justice professionals, fire-rescue, 911 dispatch telecommunications professionals, EMS/EMT, paramedics and emergency room professionals.

For more information:
www.autism-society.org/siteCalendarview=Detail&id

ASO seeks support for "First Signs"

ASO has been working with Dr. Jacquie Wynn from Columbus Children's Hospital, Dr. Nevada Reed from Akron Children's Hospital, Dr. Jim Bryant from the Ohio Department of Health and Melissa Arnold from the Ohio Chapter of the American Academy of Pediatricians to secure federal monies to support the roll out of the "First Signs" awareness and early screening program for autism and developmental disabilities in Ohio.

Dr. Wynn submitted a proposal to Senator Mike DeWine's office to request that funds be allocated within the Labor, Health, and Human Services Budget Bill for this purpose. Many thanks to Doug Krinsky - a parent who served on the Ohio Autism Taskforce - for finding and helping to cultivate this funding source.

Through Senator DeWine's generous endorsement, this project did make it into the Labor, Health, and Human Services Budget Bill, but it is still in committee, and has a bit of a way to go to get signed into law. It may not be until next year that the funding will actually be secured. Senator DeWine may need to make concerted efforts to keep this appropriation in the budget and keep it funded at its current level.

Because of this, it will be important to make sure Senator DeWine knows how much his efforts are appreciated. **If you can take a moment to send a personal note of appreciation or make a phone call and leave a detailed message, it will go long way in helping the Senator understand how important his actions have been and that we appreciate his continued support.** A postcard, letter, phone call or fax that says the following - "Thank you for your support of the Early Identification of Autism Project. We appreciate your efforts on behalf of this important program for persons with autism and their families in Ohio. Please continue to support its inclusion in the Labor, Health, and Human Services Budget Bill at the current level of funding" would be best. They get inundated with email, and it is not effective.

Please send your communication to Senator DeWine's Columbus office at:

Senator Mike DeWine:
37 West Broad Street
Suite 300
Columbus, OH 43215
Phone: (614)469-5186
Fax: (614)469-2982

If you are able to send something to Senator DeWine, please let Dr. Wynn know by sending her an email at wynnj@chi.osu.edu.

PLEASE HELP US BRING THIS IMPORTANT PROJECT TO OHIO!

**Greater Akron Chapter
Autism Society of America
Serving Summit, Stark, Portage, Wayne and Medina
Counties**

www.asagreaterakron.com

"Portrait of Self"

September 12, 2006

7pm

Judy Marks - Autism Advocates & Consultants LLC

Parents, please join Judy as she helps to teach your school district about your child's specific disability by utilizing the "Portrait of Self" as an addendum to your child's IEP. She will then present the answers to the "Top 10" frequently asked questions in regard to the "IEP".

Akron Children's Hospital William Considine Building
(Bowery Street Parking Deck)

No Cost or RSVP for this meeting

For more information, please call us at 330-543-3955 or email us at asagreaterakron@sbcglobal.net

Please mark your calendars and plan to attend the annual OSDA Fall Conference.

The conference will be held September 18-19 at the University Plaza Hotel in Columbus. It will feature artistic creations by entrepreneurs with disabilities. These creations will be made available for purchase. The conference also will feature national, state and local speakers.

OSDA will be presenting the annual ESDY Awards.

Ohio Self Determination Association

11419 Center Village Road
Galena, OH 43021

Special room rates have been reserved for this event, so call and make your overnight hotel reservation today! The room rate is \$75 for a single and \$90 for a double. Hotel reservation phone number: 1-877-677-5292

The conference registration fees are as follows:

OSDA Member: \$150
Non-OSDA Member: \$180
Self Advocate & Family Members: \$75

Phone: 740-965-9822 Fax: 740-965-5485
Email: Ohiosda@earthlink.net Website: www.ohiosda.org

Autism Society of Greater Cleveland

P. O. Box 41409
Brecksville, Ohio 44141

Phone: 216-556-4937
Email: support@asgc.org

From Diagnosis through Adulthood.

The ASGC is a volunteer organization



Upcoming Autism Conferences

Wrightslaw Special Education Law and Advocacy Training

Tuesday, October 17
9:00 am - 4:30 pm

Featuring:
Pete Wright, Esq.
&
Pam Wright, M.A., M.S.W.

Marriott Airport Hotel
Cleveland, Ohio

For more information, call:
(440)478-8708

Critical Issues for Adolescents with Autism Spectrum Disorder

September 27th & 28th

Presented by:
Spectrum Training Systems, Inc.

Holiday Inn
Indianapolis, Indiana

For more information, email:
spectrumtrainingsystems@yahoo.com

www.spectrumtrainingsystemsinc.com
