
❖ AUTISM ACTION ❖

Spring Issue

July/August 2003

The Newsletter of the
San Diego County Chapter
Autism Society of America

Serving the needs of individuals with autism and their families
through advocacy, education, public awareness and research.

SUPPORT GROUP SPEAKERS

PLEASE NOTE:

*There will be no first Thursday evening
Support Group Meetings
in July & August*

ANNUAL END OF SUMMER BACK TO SCHOOL BBQ & SWIM PARTY

Sunday, August 31st
Tierrasanta Recreation Center Pool
4:30—6:30 pm
Cost is \$5.00 for adults and kids 13 and under eat free

Look for additional information & registration
to be mailed soon!

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SUPPORT GROUP MEETING

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FORMAT

6:30-6:45 P.M. Informal/Social/ Networking Time
6:45-7:00 P.M. President's Message
7:00-8:00 P.M. Guest Speaker
8:00-8:30 P.M. Questions/ Answers

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PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

First of all, I want to say what a great honor it is to be elected as the new President of the San Diego County Chapter of the ASA. Our chapter has grown quickly over the past 3 years I have served on the board. We are one of the most successful and respected chapters in the United States. Thank you for placing your confidence in me to continue this trend. And now some thoughts....

When I was told that my first son, Brock, was autistic, I was confused, devastated and at a loss of what to do next or what was to happen in the future. I spent my time seeing only the autism and *wishing* he didn't have it. I *wished* he would follow directions like the other children. I *wished* he would say "mommy and daddy". I *wished* people wouldn't stare at me like I was a "bad mother" when he had a tantrum or ran away from me. I *wished* I could send him to school and not get the phone calls stating, "We don't know what to do with him. We can't handle him."

Then the news came that my second son, Derek, was also afflicted with autism.. I *wished* for the strength to deal with this added responsibility. I *wished* for a different life. I *wished* my life were like everyone else's—filled with peaceful family get-togethers, eating out at restaurants as a family, birthday parties and restful days at the beach. None of this was to be for my family.

As time has gone by and my sons have gotten older and I have become wiser, I realized a few things. Autism affects *every aspect* of their being. It affects their sense of touch, smell, taste, sight and hearing.

By *wishing* they didn't have autism, I was *wishing* they didn't exist. It is at the very core of their existence. I love my children more than words can say and I certainly do not wish they didn't exist.

I then started focusing more on their positive attributes. They both are fun loving, active boys. They benefit from lots of physical activity and are quite good at them—such as swimming, jumping on our trampoline, and running at the beach. They have the capacity to reciprocate their love for us in the ways they know and are comfortable.

While this path is hard and very different for all of us, I *wish* for each of you to find some comfort knowing you are not alone. My sons have been a source of inspiration and strength for me. I will continue to strive to "know them" better and help them through whatever lies ahead.

Best Wishes,
Shirley Fett

Board of Directors

President	Shirley Fett
1st VP Membership	Marilyn Rosenberg
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3rd VP Newsletter	Jennifer Oke
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Director	Tammy Anderson-Lee
Director	Angela Desideri
Director	Cathy Schieffer
Director	Rachel Zijlstra

Mission Statement

The mission of the **Autism Society of America** is to promote lifelong access and opportunities for persons within the autism spectrum and their families, to be fully included, participating members of their community through advocacy, public awareness, education and research related to autism.

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.

Dear Newsletter Readers:

After being your newsletter editor for the past year, the time has come for me to turn this job over to someone else. It was truly a significant and unique experience to be a part of this awesome team of the Autism Society of America San Diego Chapter.

I have had the privilege to serve on the Board and be a part of a dynamic group of individuals that are constantly seeking solutions and advocating for our children. I had a great time being involved and I will take so much with me as I leave this position. I am very grateful for the opportunity that was given to me. Our kids are the most precious gift one could receive from God and we as parents have been entrusted with these unique and special individuals to help them become the best they could be within this tragic disorder they have. I will miss my involvement with the Board but I'm not going anywhere, you guys will still see me around and will continue to be a part of the Autism community for a long time. Thanks again to everyone, it has been an interesting ride. God bless.

Sincerely,
Jennifer Ruiz
Out Going 3rd Vice President-Newsletter Editor

FOR YOUR INFORMATION

SDASA POOL & PIZZA PARTIES

Mark your calendars to attend our fun and popular monthly pool parties. They're held the 2nd Friday evening of each month at the Boys & Girls Club in Clairemont. 4635 Clairemont Mesa Blvd. 6:00-8:00 pm. Free pizza & drinks! The whole family can swim in an indoor, heated pool. Lifeguards provided. **Please RSVP at least three days in advance to insure sufficient food and beverages for all 619-298-1981 or info@sd-autism.org.**

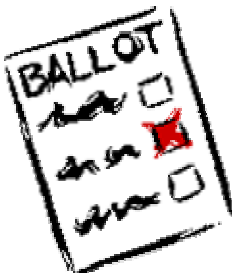
Upcoming dates:

- July 11 ♦ August 8
- September 12 ♦ October 10
- November 14 ♦ December 12

NEW BOARD OF DIRECTORS ELECTED

The 2003-2004 SDASA Board of Directors were voted into office at the Annual Meeting held on June 5th. Please welcome the following new individuals to the board:

DeeDee Spangler, Tammy Anderson-Lee, Angela Desideri, and Rachel Zijlstra. A special "thank you" goes out to the retiring board members: **Susanne Tasin, Jennifer Ruiz, Marty Bosselman, JP Lapeyre and Carrie L. Alexander.**



BEST MOM WINNER

Congratulations to **Debbie Barrow**, who was recently named one of **San Diego's Best Moms**. She was honored at the Hyatt Regency La Jolla where Time Warner San Diego President and CEO presented her with a trophy and several other gifts. Her daughter Jennifer, wrote a winning essay which included Debbie's remarkable sacrifices she has made for her family of four children, including her **son Matt who has autism**.

INFANT SIBLING STUDY AT UCSD

Recent evidence suggests there are subtle differences between children who do and do not later develop autism as young as 6 months of age. Although the large majority of infant siblings of children with autism develop normally, as a group, they can be expected to show some evidence of underlying behavioral and neurological risk. This study will evaluate the risk for specific visual and social processing deficits in 6-, 9-, and 12-month-old infant siblings of children with autism using simple, non-invasive tests. This research help determine whether or not visual and social processing deficits are risk factors that the majority of infant siblings of children with autism overcome. The results of this study will provide valuable information regarding the developmental course of autism, and may eventually contribute to the identification of autism and/or the development of early assessment and intervention strategies for the disorder in early infancy.

Participation involves two to four 1-hour visits to the UCSD Infant Vision Laboratory at 6 months of age, one 1-hour laboratory visit at 9 months of age, and filling out and return mailing a short questionnaire about your infant's social communicative development at 12 months of age. Scheduling is very flexible (including nights & weekends), and arrangements can easily be made for experienced undergraduates to play with your child with autism or other children during your visits. Please contact Joe McCleery if you have a child with a diagnosis of autism, PDD-NOS, or Asperger's Syndrome who has an infant sibling who is 6-, 9-, or 12-months of age or younger. mccleery@psy.ucsd.edu or (858) 822-0541

This research is supported in part by graduate student funds from the San Diego Chapter of the Autism Society of America and a pre-doctoral fellowship awarded to Joe McCleery by the M.I.N.D. Institute.

SDASA AWARDS SCHOLARSHIPS

The San Diego Autism Society awarded scholarships to five (5) San Diego County educators for the 3-day TEACCH Workshop held in May. Awardees included: **Debbie Chiles, Katrina McClanahan, Deanna Clark, Kristina Felzenberg, and Selena Rauenstein.**

CAMP I CAN RECEIVES AWARD



On May 15, 2003 at the YMCA of San Diego County's 121st Annual Meeting, Camp I CAN was selected as Program of the Year. This award recognizes innovation in program

development in our community. Camp I CAN executive committee members, Shelly VanBrabant, Shirley Fett and Stephanie Yoo of the Mission Valley YMCA attended the awards ceremony. Congratulations to all who have worked to help make Camp I CAN a huge success!

TOMATIS THERAPY

A family in San Diego is looking for other local families interested in Tomatis Therapy. (Information on this listening program can be found at www.tomatis.com.) The Chans are exploring the possibility of arranging to have a Tomatis Specialist come down to the area, provided there are enough families interested in the therapy. A minimum of 15 families are needed in order to have the specialist come down to the San Diego area.

Interested families should contact Wayne Chan (wayne_chanacp@hotmail.com) Phone: 619-286-8809 or Maya Hu-Chan (mayahuchan@earthlink.net).

RESOURCE INFORMATION

SUPPORT GROUPS

Autism Society of America, San Diego County Chapter. ☎ (619) 298-1981 info@sd-autism.org 📧 www.sd-autism.org Meets 1st Thursday of the month, 6:30—8:30 PM at the TMI Building, 4740 Murphy Canyon, 2nd Floor Conference Center, San Diego.

Autism Society of America, North County Chapter. *North County Coastal Group* meets 4th Monday of each month, 7:00 p.m. at the Well Being Center, 270 El Camino Real, Encinitas. Merryn Affleck (760) 479-1420. *Inland Group* meets the 3rd Tuesday of every month at Penasquitos Lutheran Church in Poway from 7 to 9 pm. Contact Kimberly Thompson at 858-748-3230. *HF/Asperger Group* meets the 1st Monday of every month Contact Sharon at 760-758-7321 or nccasa@cox.net or Vanessa Garcia at 760-945-2122. asanorthcountysandiego.homestead.com/home.html

Tierrasanta Autism Coffee Group Meets 10:00 a.m. 3rd Wed. of the month, at Earth Blend Coffee Shop, 6020 Santo Rd., in Tierrasanta. Val Saraf 858-571-0842

Autism of Imperial County. George Mcfadden 760-353-3191

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

EFRC & HOPE Infant Family Support Group. ☎ Mary Sebastyn (858) 569-5370 or Tessie Salcedo (619) 409-3127. Meets Thursdays 9:30 am (English); Fridays 9:30 am (Spanish), 276 Church Avenue, Suite B, Chula Vista.

Families & Autistic Children Together Succeed (FACTS). Cheryl Cisneros PO Box 89-0685, Temecula, CA 92589-0685 F A C T S f a m i l i e s @ a o l . c o m 📧 www.factsfamilies.org

Fragile X Center of San Diego ☎ Cindy de Gruchy (619) 697-6468. Will meet May 13 & Oct 14, 2003, 7-9PM Children's Hospital. www.fragilexsandiego.org

Kaiser Support Group Meets the second Tuesday of the month at the Vandever Kaiser location 5:30 to 7:00. Must be a Kaiser member to attend. Krissy Hallauer 858 573-5216

Parent Advocates Seeking Solutions (PASS). Parents of children 15 & older with disabilities. Beverly Andreos (858) 748-2594 . Meets 3rd Thursday of each month, St Bartholomew's Episcopal Church, 16275 Pomerado Rd, Poway.

Parent Support Group for the Resources for Students with Autism Program of San

Diego Unified Schools. Contact Bobbie Kohrt or Mary Lou Evans 858-490-8520

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

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

Understanding Autism Together. ☎ ASYMCA (619) 532-8156. Meets 3rd Monday of each month, 6:00 p.m., Pediatric Conference Room, Building 2-1 of the Naval Medical Center.

INFORMATION & RESOURCES

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

Autism Society of California. P.O. Box 8600 Long Beach, CA 90808. 1-800-700-0037 DWilson80@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/.

Children's Hospital and Health Center - Autism Intervention Center Inclusion Assistance Program offers specialists assistance to children in inclusion settings. Gabriella Albaisa ☎ (858) 966-7453.

Children's Hospital Laboratory for Research on the Neuroscience of Autism Volunteers needed for research studies. La Jolla, CA 858-454-7239

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. 📧 pai-ca.org.

SERVICES

ACES, Inc - Comprehensive Educational Services Behavior Intervention programs, Assessments, Tutoring, Parent training, Program consultation 3731 6th Avenue, Suite 100, San Diego 92103 (619) 278-0884 acesangels.com

ACES, Inc - Dolphin Assisted Therapy Program Structured, interactive behavioral program utilizing swim and contact between dolphins, trainer, ACES therapist and child at Sea World. 619-497-2450

AquaPros Swim School offers swim lessons for children with autism. Home pool programs or at Boys & Girls Club in Clairemont. 619-209-2990

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

Center for Autism Research, Evaluation & Service (CARES)- Academic and Behavior Clinic, 6160 Cornerstone Ct. East #262, San Diego, CA 92121 (858)623-2777 x397

Center for Autism Research, Evaluation & Service (CARES) - Intensive Behavior Intervention, (858) 623-2777 x397

Children's Hospital and Health Center - Autism Intervention Center parent training, professional workshops and inclusion services. Cynthia Carter Ph.D 858-966-7453

Coast Music Therapy Provides music/assisted learning approach in special education, or adapted music lessons in home. Michelle Lazar 858-453-5211

Community Coaching Center Community Based Behavioral Life Skills Coaching Program for children on the moderate to severe Autism Spectrum. Tina Waters (858) 538-0407 or ceckids@attbi.com

Coyne & Associates Offers In-Home Early Intervention programs; In-school services; psychological, educational and behavioral assessments. Dr. Paul Coyne PhD 760-634-1125 coyneandassociates.com.

DTC - Developmental Therapy Center Direct Occupational Therapy assessment and treatment, sensory integration, activity-based groups including yoga, art, and sensory motor for children of all ages. 3731 6th Avenue, Suite 103, San Diego 92103 Bridgette Anderson 619-295-4500

Excel - A Center for Speech, Language and Learning. Kara Dodds (619)692-1919 or excelspeech@hotmail.com

Giant Steps Therapy Center Berard Auditory Integration Training (AIT) & Interactive Metronome (IM) Training. Jackie Rockwell 800-952-0288 email giantsteps@earthlink.net

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

Lawrence Family Jewish Community Center Inclusion Program Offers recreation and social programs for children with special needs 858-457-3030 x222

RESOURCE INFORMATION

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

Kelly McKinnon, M.A. – Autism & Behavior
Consultant specializing in social skills.
www.kellymckinnon.com

Pacific Therapy, Inc. Angela Desideri,
Speech-Language Pathologist, 14667 Via Azul
San Diego CA 92127 (858) 442-3072

**San Diego Park & Recreation Therapeutic
Recreation 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.

Sandy Shaw, Ph.D. Psychotherapy, support
and consulting to parents and families with
children with developmental disabilities. (619)
645-8618

**STAR Program, Inc. Socialization Training
and Reinforcement.** After-school social skills
program for children with pervasive
developmental disorders. Dr. Linda Collins,
Exec Dir. & President 619-866-0980

**Team of Advocates for Special Kids
(TASK).** Workshops & advocacy training for
parents. ☎ (858) 874-2386.

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

EDUCATIONAL RESOURCES:

Community Advisory Committee

San Diego ☎ (858) 578-3148.

Poway ☎ (858) 748-0010 or (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 web page:** 🌐
www.sdcs.k12.ca.us/specialed.

Special Education Local Planning Areas

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 ☎ (619) 225-3623

South County ☎ (619) 498-8171

Notice something that's missing? Please let us
know! info@sd-autism.org

AUTISM ADVICE

*Thanks to SDASA member Valerie
Saraf for passing on this helpful travel
information...*

Toll Free Hotline for Air Travelers with Disabilities

The U.S. Department of Transportation
offers a Toll Free Hotline for air travel-
ers with disabilities. The Toll Free
Hotline for disabled air travelers has
been in operation since August 2002
and is available for callers from 7 a.m.

to 11 p.m. Eastern
Time, seven days a
week. It is currently
not being fully util-
ized. The Hotline
serves two main pur-
poses: (1) education
and (2) assistance in
resolving disability-
related air travel
problems.

Many disabled air
travelers are not aware of their rights
and the Hotline,
in part, exists as an educational service
to inform air travelers with disabilities
about their rights under the Air Carrier
Access Act and the Department's im-
plementing regulations 14 CFR Part
382 (Part 382). Hotline operators are
well versed in the ACAA and Part 382
and can provide callers with on the
spot general information about the
rights of air travelers with disabili-
ties. The Hotline operators also re-
spond to requests for printed consumer
information about air travel rights of
the disabled.

The Hotline can also assist air travelers
with disabilities in resolving real time
or upcoming issues with air carri-
ers. The purpose of "real-time"
assistance is to facilitate airline com-
pliance with DOT's rules by suggesting

to the passenger and the airline in-
volved alternative customer-service
solutions to the problem. The air-
line remains responsible for decid-
ing what action will be taken to
resolve the issue in accordance
with the ACAA and Part
382. Generally, if a caller has a
real time problem or an upcoming
issue with an air carrier, a Hotline
Duty Officer will contact that air
carrier and attempt to resolve the
issue. For example, there have been

a number of inci-
dents in which Hot-
line Duty Officers
have
contacted air carri-
ers and convinced
them to accept ser-
vice animals and
electric wheelchairs
on board flights, to
stow folding wheel-
chairs in the cabin,
and to provide re-
quested wheelchair assistance.

Air travelers who want information
about the rights of persons with
disabilities in air travel or who ex-
perience disability-related air travel
service problems may call the Hot-
line to obtain assistance at:
1-800-778-4838 (voice) or
1-800-455-9880 (TTY).

Air travelers who want DOT to
investigate a complaint about a
disability-related issue still must
submit their complaint in writing
via e-mail at
airconsumer@ost.dot.gov or postal
mail to:
Aviation Consumer Protection
Division
U.S. Department of Transportation
400 7th Street, S.W.
Washington, D.C. 20590



AUTISM ADVICE

The Exceptional Family Resource Center (EFRC) serves families of children with disabilities and professionals throughout San Diego and Imperial counties. Their mission is to provide support, information and education for families of children with disabilities and the professionals who assist these families. By offering emotional support and factual information, the Center enables families to help their children reach their fullest potential.

The Resource and Lending Library at the EFRC Central office has a number of books on Autism Spectrum Disorders available for check-out. Below is a list of books currently available:

Dibs In Search of Self (Axline)
 Autism Through a Sister's Eyes (Band)
 A Picture's Worth (Bondy)
 Autistic Spectrum Disorders (California Dept of Education)
 Some Pieces of the Puzzle (Chassman)
 Resource Guide for Parents of Children with Autistic Spectrum Disorders (Children's Hospital - San Diego)
 Dana's View-- Practical Understanding of Autism (Dana)
 Conquering Autism - Reclaiming your Child Through Natural Therapies (Edelson)
 What Does it Mean to Me? (Faherty)
 Eating on Artichoke (Fling)
 Reaching the Child with Autism Through Art (Flowers)
 Creating a "Win-Win IEP" for Students with Autism (Fouse)



A Treasure Chest of Behavioral Strategies for Individuals with Autism (Fouse)
 Teach Me Language (Freeman)
 Just This Side of Normal (Gerlach)
 Finding Out About Aspergers Syndrome, High Functioning Autism & PDD (Gerland)
 Thinking in Pictures (Grandin)
 Comic Strip Conversations (Gray)
 The New Social Story Book (Gray)
 Taming the Recess Jungle (Gray)
 Under the Big Umbrella - The Underground Guide to the Pervasive Developmental Disorders (Gutstein)
 Autism Asperger's: Solving the Relationship Puzzle (Gutstein)
 For Parents and Professionals : Autism (Harrington)
 Right From the Start - Behavioral Intervention for Young Children with Autism (Harris)
 A Parent's Guide to Autism (Hart)
 Without Reason (Hart)
 Solving Behavior Problems in Autism (Hodgdon)
 Autism Throught the Lifespan - The Eden Model (Holmes)
 Teaching Children with Autism (Koegel)
 A Work in Progress: Behavior Management (Leaf)
 Strategies and a Curriculum for Intensive Behavioral Treatment of Autism (Leaf)
 Dear Charlie - A Grandfathers Love Letter (Martin)
 Behavioral Intervention for Young Children with Autism (Maurice (ed))
 Let Me Hear Your Voice (Maurice)
 Navigating the Social World (McAfee)
 Children with Starving Brains (McCandless)
 Activity Schedules for Children with Autism - Teaching Independent Behavior (McClannahan)
 Your Life is Not a Label (Newport)
 Children with Autism - A Parent's Guide (Powers)
 Communication Intervention for Children with Autism (Quill)
 Unraveling the Mystery of Autism and PDD (Seroussi)
 Little Rainman (Simmons)
 The Hidden Child (Simons)

Asperger Syndrome and Sensory Issues (Smith-Myles)
 Practical Solutions for School Success (Smith-Myles)
 Fragile Success - Ten Autistic Children - Childhood to Adulthood (Sperry)
 Reaching Out, Joining In (Weiss)
 Autism Spectrum Disorders - A Transactional Developmental Perspective Vol. 9 (Wetherby)
 Toilet Training for Individuals with Autism & Related Disorders (Wheeler)
 Pretending to be Normal (Willey)
 Somebody Somewhere (Williams)
 Nobody Nowhere (Williams)
 Autism - An Inside-Out Approach (Williams)



The EFRC welcomes donations of gently used, already read books to the library so that others can benefit from them.

The EFRC Central Office is located at 9245 Sky Park Court, Suite 130 in San Diego 92123. Their phone number is (800) 281-8252 or (858) 292-9092. Their website address is edweb.sdsu.edu/efrc and their email address is efrc@mail.sdsu.com

UPCOMING EVENTS

2003 ASA National Conference on Autism: *Bridges To The Future!* July 16—20, 2003 at the Westin Convention Center Hotel in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania. Speakers to include Carol Gray, Jerry & Mary Newport, Pat Mirenda, Ph.D, Temple Grandin, Ph.D Registration information is available at www.autism-society.org.



Auditory Integration Training (AIT) by Terrie Silverman, MS will be held in San Diego August 1-10, 2003. AIT is a ten day, noninvasive therapeutic technique which helps people to hear all frequencies more evenly, to improve in the processing of auditory input, and to decrease hyper or hypo-sensitivity to specific environmental or speech sounds. For more information, please contact Terrie Silverman via email (terries@execpc.com) or phone 262-569-7828 or 858-278-9534. More information can also be found at: www.we-exist.net/ait

CAMP TAALCC—Camp TAALCC (Turning Augmentative/Alternative Language into Conversational Communication) is a communication-based day camp for school-aged users of Augmentative/Alternative Communication Devices. Each five-day camp allows children ages 6-16 to meet other ACD users, develop their knowledge of the device, and communicate 1:1 with a trained partner in a natural and motivating environment. Campers also participate in fully accessible traditional camp activities such as music, sailing, canoeing, nature walks, arts & crafts, and beach activities. While children learn and play, training sessions and guest speakers are provided for the parents. Date: 3 camps; July 28 - Aug.18 Location: Camp Surf, San Diego. For more information, please visit www.pro-speech.com/taalcc.html or contact Pro-Speech at (619) 574-8181.

Picture Exchange Communication System Training Workshops August 4, 2003—PECS follow-up August 5 & 6, 2003 2-Day PECS Training. Holiday Inn Mission Bay (near Sea World) Sponsored by Pyramid Educational Consultants, Inc. Registration fee includes a copy of the 2nd Edition PECS Training Manual. For additional information: 1-888-732-7462 or www.pecs.com

Speech & Music Therapy Groups. Pacific Therapy, directed by Angela Desideri, MS, CCC-SLP, and **Coast Music Therapy**, directed by Michelle Lazar, MT-BC, are forming collaborative groups this summer to assist children in areas of **speech|language development** and **socialization**. Groups will be facilitated by a licensed speech|language pathologist and credentialed music therapist, both specializing in children with developmental disabilities. Each week will focus on a different language theme, with corresponding activities such as **vocabulary building, social conversation, play schemes, and turn-taking**. Music activities designed to target these skills will include **singing, movement, and rhythm instruments**. Thursdays, July 10th- August 14th 2:45-3:45 (ages 3-6 yrs), 4:00-5:00 (ages 7-12 yrs) South Clairemont Recreation Center. For additional question, contact Angela Desideri at (858) 756-5062.

Summer Programs from Children's Hospital are available at convenient locations throughout the county. *Sensory Motor Play* is for ages 3-4, and is a three week program which includes six sixty-minute sessions (cost \$285). *Kindergarten Readiness* is for ages 4-6 and is a three-week program which includes six sixty-minute sessions (cost \$330). *Handwriting—Manuscript/Cursive* is for grades 1-6 and is a three-week program which includes six sixty-minute sessions (cost \$285) *ALERT* is for ages 8-12 and is a three-week program which includes six sixty-minute sessions (cost \$285). For more information call (858) 966-8137.

I CAN PLAY! Recreational Group for children with developmental delays such as HFA or Aspergers, ages 5-8. The focus of the group is on social communication and gross motor play. The children will have an opportunity to participate in a variety of activities such as, relay races, golf, baseball, soccer and more. Facilitators/coaches have extensive training in play therapy, social skills facilitation, sensory integration, child development, visual strategies and Applied Behavior Analysis. You have your choice of two groups. Group 1: Sunday mornings 9-11:15 a.m. (7/27/03 to 8/31/03) Group 2: Tuesday and Thursday 9-11:15 a.m. (8/5/03 to 8/21/03) Cost: \$40 per day/session or \$180 for 6 days/sessions. Each group will consist of a 3 - 6 children. Typical peers can participate free of charge. Registration is required by 7/21/03. To register please contact Cari Miller at: Carilnn@AOL.com (619) 218-8744. References also available upon request.

Barbara Bloomfield Workshops Barbara will be returning to San Diego this fall and present "Icon to I Can" workshops on Friday, November 15 and Sunday, November 17, 2003. Save the date(s)! Come learn about using visually based structured teaching across a variety of settings and for all phases of the spectrum at this hands-on workshop. Registration information will be available from the SDASA at a later date.

MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

SAN DIEGO COUNTY CHAPTER / AUTISM SOCIETY OF CALIFORNIA / AUTISM SOCIETY OF AMERICA

NAME: _____
 ADDRESS: _____
 CITY: _____ STATE _____ ZIP _____ - _____
 PHONE: _____ E-MAIL _____

YOU MAY USE MY NAME AND ADDRESS AS A REFERRAL FOR OTHER PARENTS YES NO
 YOU MAY GIVE MY NAME TO OTHER PARENTS IN MY AREA YES NO

WHAT IS YOUR RELATIONSHIP TO THE PERSON WITH AUTISM (CHECK ALL BOXES THAT APPLY):

- PARENT GRAND PARENT TEACHER AIDE
- CARE PROVIDER RELATIVE PHYSICIAN PSYCHOLOGIST
- FRIEND SCHOOL ADMINISTRATOR OTHER

DUES (INCLUDES NATIONAL AND STATE DUES):

- FULL TIME STUDENT: \$25.00
- INDIVIDUAL: \$35.00
- FAMILY MEMBERSHIP: \$45.00
- NEWSLETTER ONLY - 1 YEAR SUBSCRIPTION: \$10.00

PLEASE CHECK IF:

- NEW MEMBER
- RENEWING MEMBER

APPLICATIONS CAN BE MAILED TO: Autism Society of America, P. O. Box 420908, San Diego, CA 92124

MAKE CHECKS PAYABLE TO: AUTISM SOCIETY OF AMERICA • ***DUES AND DONATIONS ARE TAX DEDUCTIBLE***

SAN DIEGO COUNTY CHAPTER
 Autism Society of America
 P O Box 420908
 San Diego, CA 92124

(619) 298-1981
 Email: info@sd-autism.org
 Website: www.sd-autism.org