
❖ AUTISM ACTION ❖

November / December 2004

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.

MONTHLY INFORMATIONAL MEETING SPEAKERS

6:30 — 8:30 pm

TMI Conference Center

4740 Murphy Canyon Road—2nd Floor, San Diego / Kearny Mesa

Thursday, November 4, 2004

Chiropractic and the Patient with Autism — Dr. Amber Campbell

Thursday, December 2, 2004

Holiday Party

A Social Gathering with wine & cheese

PIZZA PARTY WITH SANTA

Friday, December 10th 6:00 — 8:00 pm

San Diego Boys & Girls Club Pool

GRUPO DE APOYO EN ESPANOL

para mas informacion llamar al 1-800-281-8252

18 de noviembre

Lic. Burnadette Bautista

La Oficina de Defensa de los Derechos de Los Clientes (OCRA)

la escuela Greg Rogers Elementary, 510 E Naples, Chula Vista CA 91911

de 6-8 pm

5 de diciembre

10AM-1PM, en el parque *Voyager* en Chula Vista

fiesta de navidad

IN THIS ISSUE

Scheduled Meetings	1
President's Message	2
For Your Information	3
Research Update	5
Resource Information	6
Autism Advice	8
Upcoming Events	9
Membership Application	10

MONTHLY MEETING 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

*Autism Action is published bi-monthly by the
San Diego County Chapter of the Autism Society of America
P O Box 420908, San Diego, California 92124
(619) 298-1981*

e-mail : info@sd-autism.org

Web site: www.sd-autism.org

A Member of the Combined Health Agencies and the Combined Federal Campaign—Agency Code 5580

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

The holidays are fast approaching and for most of us this brings a mixture of excitement, anticipation and.....uncertainty. When we were younger, the uncertainty was likely due to wondering if we would get the gifts we wished for and would our friends and family like what we had gotten for them. While that may still be the case for many of us, the uncertainty of having a child with autism and how the holidays "will go" is likely the prevailing issue.

Trying to figure out what "works" for our children with autism during the holidays doesn't have to be a challenge. Over the years, through trial and tribulation, we have figured out some things for our family that "work".

Let your family and friends know what types of gifts your child would enjoy. Our children usually don't have the same interests as other children their age and our families and friends are often at a loss of what to do in the gift department. Some of the most loved gifts my sons have received were things like therapy balls to bounce on, a mini-trampoline, a body sox, a slinky...you get the picture.

If you really want to see Santa at the mall or other community locations, plan ahead. Try to go when there are fewer people and during the week. Give Santa a "heads up" about your child before trying the "sit on the lap with Santa" picture. A better idea might be to attend the ASA holiday pool party and get a chance to see Santa there. Santa can be a pretty scary guy to some of the kids, so use your judgment on whether it is worth the effort.

Holiday dinners can be tough since many of our children only like certain foods or are on restricted diets. Take along foods you know your child likes and let the host know ahead of time why you are doing this.

If you are going to a party, consider taking along a respite worker who can help out with your child. This will allow you some time to enjoy yourself without constantly having to check-up on your child or worry about their well being.

The sights and sounds of the holidays are a real sensory overload, even for us, so we always try to be sensitive to this fact. We don't expect our children to tolerate long outings where there are many people and noises. This is not to say we don't go to places such as the mall, department stores, etc...Rather, we just limit the amount of time we will spend at these places. I never expect to get all of my shopping or errands done when I take my sons with me. It is a short and, hopefully, successful trip.

Last, but not least, take some time to enjoy yourselves, relax a bit (a real luxury, I know!) and spend some time with your friends and families. The SDASA chapter is holding two holiday events—one for the grown-ups and one for the kids. We hope you will fit this into your holiday plans. The details are in this newsletter.

Have a wonderful and safe holiday season!!!

Shirley Fett, President

Board of Directors

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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.

FOR YOUR INFORMATION

ABOUT OUR SPEAKERS

Dr. Amber Valencia-Campbell

Thursday, November 4, 2004

Chiropractic and the Patient with Autism

Dr. Campbell has a Chiropractic practice in Santee where she treats patients of all ages. She specializes in helping children with special needs from autism to muscular dystrophy to learning disabilities. She graduated from Palmer College of Chiropractic West in 2002 after attending the University of California, San Diego where she received her Bachelor of Science degree in Biochemistry and Cell Biology with a minor in psychology in 1998. While at UCSD she worked in the autism research lab under Dr. Laura Schriebman using Pivotal Response Training (PRT). Since then she has worked as a behavioral consultant and therapist for school districts locally and in northern California. Dr. Campbell is a member of the California Chiropractic Association, Santee Kiwanis, and Santee Le Tip.

Chiropractic and the Patient with Autism
Chiropractic care can help a multitude of conditions and symptoms. By stimulating a variety of nerve receptors and eliminating interference of the nervous system chiropractic can help special needs children. Did you know that chiropractic care is also a safe, natural, gentle, and effective way of decreasing some of the adverse signs and symptoms associated with autism and other disabilities? Improvements have been seen with sleeping patterns and communication skills, decreased stimming and self-abusive behaviors, and attending time increased.

NEW BOOK

Gift from My Son: Autism Redefined by Keli Lindelien is the story of Benjamin, a normal baby whose language and social skills deteriorated rapidly due to an adverse reaction from a vaccine he received at 12 months. He began to turn inward and showing signs of autism at about 18 months and was formally

diagnosed at age 3. Up to this point, Benjamin's story follows the unfortunately familiar pattern of children who are diagnosed with autism.

Gift from My Son, however, is a story of autism unlike any other. Lindelien learned to meet Benjamin at his level, as an individual, and was rewarded with insights into the mind of an autistic child that include an altogether new theory about the role of left versus right brain dominance. She also reveals a number of natural medicine therapies that reversed many of Benjamin's worst symptoms and includes a comprehensive chart of the progression and reversal of Benjamin's physical symptoms that resulted from a course of natural therapies.

RESOURCES FOR STUDENTS WITH AUTISM (RSA)

Would like to Invite You to Attend
Events for Parents
2004—2005

Whittier Center, Room B-26
3401 Clairemont Dr., San Diego

Parent Workshops

SATURDAY Mornings
9 a.m. — 12:30 p.m.

October 30, 2004

Using Social Stories & Power Cards
to Solve Behavioral Challenges
Bobbie Kohrt, Autism Specialist

January 22, 2005

Promoting Successful Transitions
Mary Lou Evans, Autism Specialist

April 16, 2005

Strategies to Address Behaviors
at Home
John Baer, Autism Specialist

June 4, 2005

Taking Care of Yourself While
Taking Care of Your Child
Meg Jones and Sharon Heller,
Autism Specialists

Parent Support Groups

FRIDAY Mornings
9:30 a.m. — 11 a.m.

October 29

November 19

December 10

January 21

February 4

February 25

March 11

April 8

April 22

May 13

Sorry, there is no childcare available.

Questions? Call 858-490-8508

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 FIVE days in advance to insure sufficient food and beverages for all 619-298-1981 or info@sd-autism.org.**

Upcoming dates:

November 12, December 10, January 14

SANTA TO ARRIVE AT THE POOL & PIZZA PARTY

Santa will be at the Friday, December 10th Pool and Party from 6:00 to 8:00 p.m. to celebrate the holidays. Bring your children for a goodie bag and to sit on Santa's wet lap! Please call the SDASA at 619-298-1981 by Monday, December 6th to reserve a space for your family.

GOLF LESSONS FOR PERSONS WITH AUTISM

In collaboration with John Klein, PGA Golf Professional, the SDASA is offering individuals with autism ages 7 to 17 years of age golf lessons. This is intended to be a fun, family event. An adult must accompany each individual with autism. Individuals with autism will be fitted and given a golf club to keep. Parents, caregivers and siblings in attendance may bring their own equipment or may use the equipment provided. Lessons are 3:00 pm to 4:00 pm on Sundays at the Sheraton 4 Points Hotel on Aero Drive. Enrollment is limited to the first 10 individuals with autism. There will be a new session beginning at the start of each month. Cost per participant is \$10 per/week. Payment in full is due participation for all sessions will be due the first day. To enroll, contact John Klein (858) 780-0731 or specialjohn@san.rr.com.

John Klein is a PGA golf professional. He has been teaching adults and children with special needs for 26 years. He has a background in therapeutic recreation, special education and adaptive physical education.

FLEET PURCHASE PROGRAM

SDASA members now qualify for Toyota San Diego's "Fleet Purchase Program"! The streamlined process will greatly decrease both the cost of purchasing a vehicle and the time spent shopping for one. The program offers you:

- Genuine fleet prices
- No hassles or haggling
- Personal appointment with the Fleet Manager
- VIP Membership and Discount Card (parts and service)
- Complimentary Shuttle service
- One-stop Financing
- Streamlined buying experience

For more information please contact Gregory Swim, Fleet Manager at 1-866-228-3333.

RESEARCH GRANTS

The SDASA is pleased to announce our most recent project: a formal research grant application process to disperse funds. The SDASA will provide support for research-based projects in San Diego County that are directly related to increasing our knowledge of autism spectrum disorders. Proposals are now being accepted for the January 30th deadline. Please call the SDASA for an application and direct any questions to Jennifer Oke, Ph.D. Committee Chair (619) 298-1981

MEMBERSHIP DUES INCREASE

Please note that our membership dues have been increased. This is the first increase since 1999. Thank you for your continued support of ASA, and especially the San Diego County Chapter.

MEMBERSHIP INFORMATION

Recently your membership number has been added to your mailing label directly above your name and address. You may be asked for this number for events that are discounted for members or events/programs that are limited to SDASA members only. You can now renew your membership online. Go to website www.sd-autism.org and going to "Membership/Donations"

PLANNED CHARITABLE GIVING

As we confront the challenges of the future, we know that the generosity of those who assist us will make all the difference in our success. And there are many ways that your philanthropic giving can accommodate your financial situation and tax planning.

One of the easiest ways to make a gift to the ASA is with a Bequest in your will or revocable living trust. Bequests work particularly well for those who are unable to make an immediate gift, but would like to support the future work of ASA. Please contact the ASA at 619-298-1981 if you would like more information about Planned Charitable Giving. All gifts, large and small, make a difference to the future of ASA.

SIBLINGS WORKSHOP

C.A.S.E., Inc. is now offering siblings of children with high functioning autism and Asperger's Syndrome a workshop to learn about their brother or sister. The workshop will be directed by Cynthia LaBrie Norall, Ph.D and facilitated by Maria Lyon and Evan Wooton. The kids will learn:

- The definitions of high functioning autism and Asperger's Syndrome.
- Strategies on how to cope with a melt down a brother or sister might have.
- Strategies on how to become their brother's or sister's ally if they are being bullied.
- Fun activities that will teach them about the feelings of their sibling on the autistic spectrum.

The workshop is for siblings ages 10 and up. The workshop will be held Saturday, November 13, 2004, 10:00 AM – 12:00 noon. For more information contact CASE at 760-720-4964 or at casembl@aol.com.

RESEARCH UPDATE

Regression and word loss in autistic spectrum disorders

Lord C, Shulman C, DiLavore P. University of Michigan, Ann Arbor, Michigan; Hebrew University of Jerusalem, Israel; University of North Carolina–Chapel Hill, North Carolina
Abstract: *J Child Psychol Psychiatry*. 2004 Jul;45(5):936-55

Findings

For many years, doctors and researchers have described parent reports of an unusual phenomenon in children with Autistic Spectrum Disorders (ASD)—during the second year of life, the child gains and then loses their ability to communicate. While parent reports and some videotapes can be helpful in describing this phenomenon, it is seldom comprehensive, and researchers do not fully understand this problem. To study this in a controlled setting, Dr. Lord and her colleagues examined several groups of children referred to their clinics by a series of diagnostic and word tests to assess the child's patterns of word use. As part of a longitudinal study, 21 children with developmental delay, 68 children with autism, 28 children with pervasive developmental disorders (PDD-NOS), 14 children with possible autism, and 33 typically developing controls were given a standardized test battery at entry into the study and at ages 4 to 5. As part of these assessments mothers were asked specific questions about the onset of difficulties. There was a loss of less specific, non-word vocalizations in all children with cognitive delay, with or without autism. However, the 19 children who—were described by their parents as having gained and then lost spontaneous, meaningful words at age 2, were all from the autism or PDD group (14 in the autism group and 5 in the PDD-NOS group) Thus, about 25% of children with ASD were described by parents as having gained and used words meaningfully but losing this skill in the second year of life. The tests showed that children who gained a small number of words they used consistently and meaningfully followed by loss of all words, was unique to those diagnosed with ASD at 5 years of age. Besides patterns of word loss, there were few cognitive differences between children

with ASD with and without word loss.

Conclusions

Dr. Lord and her colleagues conclude that word loss is a phenomenon that can be reliably identified in early childhood that is unique—but not universal—to children with ASD, and is an unusual pattern in early development of autistic children. This phenomenon of words gained and then lost early in life may be a useful signal for parents, alerting them to the possibility of autism in the child. The researchers do not know exactly what causes these changes. Future research will need to address a number of questions, including why certain children with ASD are able to use words spontaneously and meaningfully early in development, why they do not progress, why these initial skills do not persist and are lost, and why words are eventually regained in some children.

Eshkol–Wachman movement notation in diagnosis: The early detection of Asperger's syndrome

Osnat Teitelbaum, Tom Benton, Prithvi K. Shah, Andrea Prince, Joseph L. Kelly, and Philip Teitelbaum

Department of Psychology, University of Florida, Gainesville, FL 32611; Benton Pediatrics, 5612 NW 43rd Street, Gainesville, FL 32653; and Department of Physical Therapy, University of Florida, Gainesville, FL 32610

Abstract: *PNAS* 2004 101(32):11989

Findings

The diagnostic criteria of Asperger's syndrome (AS), a disorder considered part of the autism spectrum disorder (ASD), are still unclear. Generally, a physician uses the acquisition of language as a diagnosis. Compared with autism, AS is usually diagnosed rather late in the child's life, around 6-7 years of age. The early severe deficits in social behavior and language abnormalities found in children with autism do not occur in AS, thus leaving the AS child undiagnosed until much later than autistic children, which are diagnosed about age 3. The authors of this article suggest that movement patterns in infants can be

thought of as their “first language” and may be a more accurate way of distinguishing autism from AS. The development of motor autonomy is the infant's central task in the first year of life. In this study, they suggest and test the theory that abnormal movement patterns similar to those seen in autistic children, also exist in infants who will later be diagnosed with AS. They used the “Eshkol-Wachman” movement notation (EWMN), a movement analysis developed for dance. It was designed to enable choreographers to write movement down on paper that dancers could later reconstruct in its entirety, in a manner analogous to a musical score, and thus, the EWMN is very detailed in analyzing a person's movement. Videotapes of 16 infants that had been diagnosed with AS, all provided by parents, were analyzed by this method. Simply, the detailed analysis looked at infants mouth movements, patterns of lying down, standing up, sitting or crawling, falling down, and movement while being tilted. Many deficits in movement were seen in the infants studied. For example the infants studied showed such defects as (1) “Moebius mouth”, an abnormally shaped or formed mouth during smiling, (2) abnormal or asymmetrical tonic neck reflexes when righting from supine to prone position, (3) failure to synchronize a normal shift of weight and frequent falling, (4) failure use protective reflexes when falling, and (5) failure to keep the head oriented properly when the infant was purposely tilted. Normal infants showed none of the deficits described in this study.

Conclusions

An infant's reflexes are easy to spot and can be used as early detection signs. When these reflexes persist too long or do not appear when they should, the motor development of the infant and, subsequently, other aspects of his behavior will be affected. They can therefore serve as early detection markers for abnormal neurological development in AS and autism.

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, September — June, 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 2nd Thursday of the month *Inland Group* meets 3rd Tuesday of the month *HF/Asperger Group* meets 1st Monday of the month. For more information contact info@nccasa.com or (760) 479-1420 www.nccasa.com

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 in Chula Vista. English and Spanish groups.

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. Children's Hospital. www.fragilexsandiego.org

Kaiser Support Group Meets the second Tuesday 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

Spanish-Speaking Support Group — For families with children under 5: 1st & 3rd Fridays, 9:30-11AM. For families with children 5 and over: 2nd & 4th Friday, 9:30-11AM. Contact Laura Cervantes (619)498-8171 or Tessie Salcedo (619)594-7391.

SibShop Sibling support group for kids ages 6-12. Contact Nicole Hadley CCLS (858) 966-7411.

Supporting Parents of Autistic Young Adults (SPAYA) Sophia (858) 560-0555 or SPAYA@san.rr.com Meets at San Diego Regional Center, Rm. 101, 4355 Ruffin Road.

TACA Parent training and support group addressing issues of younger children on the spectrum TACAnow@anysite.net

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. www.asymcasd.org

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 ☎ 800-700-0037 www.autismsocietyca.org info@autism-society-ca.org

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/.

Autism Tissue Program (ATP). A national campaign, working with advocacy organizations to notify families of the importance of brain tissue donation for autism research. 1-877-333-0999 (24-hour information and donation hotline) www.MemoriesofHope.org

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. www.EFRCOnline.org

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.

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.

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

Valeries Email List information, announcements and networking. To subscribe email Val Saraf at ValeriesList@aol.com

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

UCSD and SDSU Functional Brain Imaging Studies Volunteers with autism or Asperger syndrome (ages 10 and older) needed for new studies of attention, language, and memory. Natacha Akshoomoff, Ph.D. 858-622-1805

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, one-on-one aide and child at Sea World. 619-497-2450

AIR - Autism Interventions and Resources ABA Service Provider. Anahita Parsi Renner, MA , Consulting Behavior Analyst. 949-228-2407 www.hopeisintheAIR.com anahita@hopeisintheAIR.com

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

ASC, Autism Spectrum Consultants, providers of ABA therapy, school shadowing and supervision. Contact Shannon@autismconsultants.com or 858.456.2249

ASC Circle of Friends social skills group, 3-6th graders on Mondays 4-6pm, preschool and lower elementary groups forming for fall. Please contact Susie@autismconsultants.com or 858.456.2249

Autism Friends Club. Social skills training for children on the high functioning end of the autism spectrum, 4-18 years of age. Comprehensive Autism Services and Education (CASE) in Carlsbad 760-720-4964 www.casefamily.com

Autism Spectrum Consultants (ASC) social skills groups, ages 7-13, on Mondays 4-6pm, 6 week sessions in Scripps Ranch. Cindy@autismconsultants.com

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

RESOURCE INFORMATION

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

CARES Family Services Center- Providing therapeutic services (including individual, family, and child therapy) for families with children with developmental, behavioral and/or social problems. Now accepting TRI-CARE. Nancy Cason, Psy.D. 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 individual sessions, adapted lessons, Team M.U.S.I.C. group program, and educational recordings. 858-453-5211 or info@coastmusictherapy.com

Community Coaching Center Community & Behavioral Life Skills Training and supervision for after school, Saturdays, school vacation. Tina Waters (858) 603-9835 www.cceckids.net

Comprehensive Autism Services and Education, Inc. (CASE) In home programs, school consultation, social skills groups. 580 Beech Avenue, Suite B Carlsbad, CA 92008 (760) 720-4964 CASEandi@aol.com www.casefamily.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.

The Crimson Center for Speech & Language. Speech/language therapy services, social/language groups, typical peer groups, and occupational therapy. Sessions can be observed behind one-way mirrors. 858-695-9415 or www.crimsoncenter.com

Susan L. Daniel, O.D., Developmental Optometrist 2624-A El Camino Real Carlsbad, CA 92008 760-434-3314 drsusdan@pacbell.net

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 Speech Therapy Center (Katherine Medeiros) **OT Etc** (Val Plummer) 7927 Ostrow St. Suite B San Diego 92111 858-565-6910 www.excelspeech.com

Kara Dodds and Associates Kara Dodds (619)692-0622 or KaraDoddsandAssoc@sbcglobal.net

K.I.D.S. Therapy Associates Providing occupational, physical and speech-language intervention, as well as, special programs. 11665 Avena Place Suite 106, San Diego, CA 92128, (858) 673-KIDS (5437). Betsy Slavik, M.A., OTR/L & Jan Dalby, OTR/L (Co-Directors) www.kidstherapyassociates.com

Kirsch Therapy Specializes in working with children and has extensive experience with augmentative communication systems 1020 South Santa Fe Suite E Vista, CA 92084 760-277-3465 kirschtherapy.com lyn@kirschtherapy.com

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

Horsemanship for the Handicapped. A rehabilitation and therapy program offered at no cost to participants. San Diego Center, (619) 441-7868.

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

Kidspiration Physical Therapy and Yoga, Inc. 909 Prospect Street, Suite 224 La Jolla, CA 92130 www.kidspirationPT.com info@kidspirationPT.com 619-804-1630 Michele Rooney Harriman, MS, PT. Yoga, craniosacral therapy, 'breath play' and aquatics. Parent and professional training workshops.

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

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

Lovaas Institute for Early Intervention (LIFE) 6540 Lusk Boulevard, Suite C-157, San Diego, CA 92121. Miriam Luttbeg, Director of Operations - San Diego. www.lovaas.com mluttbeg@lovaas.com

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

N. Jennifer Oke, Ph.D. Clinical Psychologist. Psychological assessment and treatment for children with autism spectrum disorders and their families. Many insurances accepted. CA License #PSY14603 (858) 452-9596.

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

Promising Futures, Inc. Residential services

for adults with autism (619) 390-4277 www.promisingfutures.net. Vocational services (619) 440-3300.

Pyramid Educational Consultants, Inc. staff development, program design and family training for Picture Exchange Communication System (PECS). 888-732-7462 www.pecs.com

Sensory Learning Center—An Optometric Group Learning Program uses a combination of vision, balance, and auditory training to improve perception, understanding, and the ability to learn. Dr. Susan Daniel 760-230-2264 or drsusdan@pacbell.net or dspangler@sensorylearning.com

STAR Program, Inc. Socialization Training and Reinforcement. After-school social skills program for children with pervasive developmental disorders. Dr. Linda Collins, Exec Dir. & President 6440 Lusk Blvd. Suite D203, San Diego, California 92121 (858) 450-4785


Vivo Music Therapy Services Julie M. Guy, MT-BC Music Therapist Board Certified Fax & 24-hour Voice Mail 1.866.493.6097 www.vivomusictherapy.com

EDUCATIONAL RESOURCES:


Community Advisory Committee for Special Education (CACSE)

San Diego ☎ (858) 627-7270 ext 3160.

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/specialled.

Special Education Local Planning Areas

East County ☎ (619) 590-3920

North Coastal ☎ (760) 471-8208

North Inland ☎ (760) 788-4671

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

Please send updates to info@sd-autism.org

AUTISM ADVICE

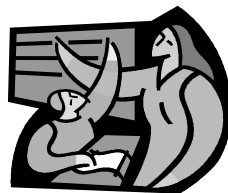
Is It That Your Child *Won't* or Is It That Your Child *Can't*?

Adapted from Diane Malbin
by Jennifer Oke, Ph.D.

Beliefs dictate behaviors. The belief that many primary learning and behavioral characteristics, which may reflect underlying neuropathology, associated with autism spectrum disorders are the result of willful or intentional behaviors often leads to inappropriate discipline for these symptoms. Inadvertently, this may, in turn, result in an array of secondary characteristics or behaviors. The key to intervention is linking the idea of underlying neuropathology with presenting problems, reframing perceptions, and moving from a reactive, punishment model to a supportive model. The shift is from seeing a child as one who “won’t” do something to one who possibly

“can’t”. This distinction, as parents and professionals, we all know, is often a hard one to make. Below are a few examples of primary learning and behavioral characteristics that are sometimes misinterpreted.

The secondary characteristics or behaviors that might result from a standard interpretation leading to reprimands may include response such as: anger, frustration, avoidance, confusion, distress, anxiety, giving up, acting out, rigid behavior, resistiveness, self-stimulatory behaviors, and shut down. For these reasons, it is important to take into consideration when designing a behavior plan, “is it that your child *can't* or is it that your child *won't*?”



NEW BOOK

The Stonking Steps: A Journey Through Ing-Ong-Ung by Will Rogers
Illustrations by Honor Keever
is a delightful children’s fantasy novel about a boy named Justin and his quest to find happiness.

The author’s high-functioning autism gives him a unique perspective on the idiosyncrasies of society, language and personal relations. The result is a very original and imaginative tale combining humour, adventure and heartfelt emotion that will be enjoyed by children and adults alike.

In *The Stonking Steps*, Justin Walker discovers a portal into the world of Ing-Ong-Ung; there he learns about *The Stonking Steps*, the fabled staircase to happiness. He is joined by an assortment of new friends who all have their own reasons for going to the Stonking Steps.

Primary Characteristics: Neurology	Standard Interpretation: May Lead to Reprimands
Inconsistent performance	Not trying on “off” days
Poor short term (auditory) memory	Not listening, not paying attention
Can’t link words with feelings	May be seen as uncaring by others
May not generalize or apply rules in new settings	“Trying to make me mad”
Difficulty with abstractions: Money, math, time	Has to know his times tables!
Poor planning, sequencing initiating, following through	Reprimanded for not doing or completing tasks
Difficulty understanding danger	
Can’t see consequences	Impulsive, suggestible
Long response time	Trying to be controlling
Perseverative	Controlling, wants own way
No response, flat affect	Doesn’t care

UPCOMING EVENTS

Spanish Support Group La junta de noviembre ha cambiado al 18, en lugar del 11 en honor del día del veterano. Nuestro orador es un abogado con La Oficina de Defensa de los Derechos de Los Clientes (OCRA), Lic. Burnadette Bautista. Ella va a presentar sobre los derechos de las personas con deshabilitades del desarrollo y sus familias. La agencia de OCRA puede investigar quejas y representar a familias sobre la denegación de cualquier derecho al que tenga derecho un cliente con deshabilitades del desarrollo, si la queja es sobre una institución. Estos instituciones incluyen: las escuelas, el seguro social, el centro regional, Medi-Cal, Administradores de bienes y alternativas, etc. la escuela Greg Rogers Elementary 510 E Naples, Chula Vista CA 91911 de 6-8 pm

La junta de diciembre ha cambiado tambien. En lugar de tenerlo el jueves, vamos a tener un fiesta de navidad el domingo 5 de diciembre 10AM-1PM, en el parque Voyager en Chula Vista. Favor de traer su platillo favorito para repartir, y nosotros traemos la diversión. Vamos a tener un brincolin, regalitos para los niños, una piñata, y una ocasión para conocer mas familias en el condando. Estamos invitando a todas las familias hispanas afectado por el autismo. Para mas información y para reservar, por favor llame a 1-800-281-8252.

Barbara Bloomfield Workshops The San Diego County Chapter of the Autism Society of America (SDASA) is sponsoring two one-day workshops that deal with teaching individuals with Autism Spectrum Disorder. Barbara Bloomfield is returning to San Diego for the third year in a row, on November 15th and 16th. Barbara is a speech/language pathologist who has developed useful strategies for working with students with Autism Spectrum Disorder, and she is a wonderful presenter. Her workshops are distinctively different this year, so even if you've attended a Bloomfield workshop before you should plan on attending again. See the flyer enclosed in this newsletter for more information and a registration form.

Autism Conference Children's Autism Intervention Center presents Rick Robinson, MD, MPH. Saturday, November 13, 2004. Registration at 8:00 a.m. Conference Time: 8:30 a.m. - 4:30 p.m. at The Neighborhood House, 5660 Copley Drive, San Diego, CA 92111. Topics include: A Biomedical Approach to the Evaluation of Children with Autistic Spectrum Disorders (ASD) and Development of Multi-Disciplinary Treatment Protocols, and Demystifying Medication Management of Children with ASD. Registration \$120.00 (Continental breakfast provided; Lunch on your own). This conference has been approved for 6.5 CME/CPD/MCEP credits for physicians, nurses, psychologists, speech pathologists, and audiologists for an additional fee of \$20. For more information please call Bonnie Corbin at the Children's Autism Intervention Center (858) 966-7453

Resources for Students with Autism (RSA) Support Group Meets Friday, November 19th and Friday, December 10th at Whittier Center, Room B-26, 3401 Clairemont Drive, San Diego 9:30am — 11:00am. Questions? Call 858-490-8508

Save the Date! The Splash for Cash — SDASA's second annual 10-Hour Team Swim-a-Thon benefiting Pool PALS aquatic programs will be held Saturday, March 5, 2005. Recruit a group of your closest friends, family members, co-workers, teammates or acquaintances....and get ready for a fun day at the pool! All swimmers are welcome, novice to elite. Swim at your own pace. This is a whole day of family fun while supporting a great cause — aquatic programs for people with autism. Programs include swimming lessons, surf camp & monthly pool parties. Swimmers and non-swimmers alike can enjoy a pancake breakfast and chili dinner.

Special Needs Estate Planning Workshop Join us for a complimentary, informative round table discussion on the topic of developing a Special Needs Trust. Discussions will be held on Thursday November 18th at 11:30 am or 5:45 pm (lunch and dinner will be provided). The planning discussion will be held at the Law Firm of Strazzeri Mancini, LLP. To RSVP call Stephen Yoo at (619) 699-3958 or email your RSVP to stephen_yoo@ml.com by November 12th.

An Introduction to Autism Life After the Diagnosis: A Parent's Guide directed by Dr. Cynthia LaBrie Norall, Ph.D. Saturday, November 13, 2004, 10:00 – 12:00, \$60.00 (there is a \$25.00 non-refundable deposit that will go toward your workshop fee. Dr. Norall will speak on What is the Diagnosis? The assessment process, what to get out of schools, IEP information. If you have any further questions please call or email Maria Lyon at 760-720-4964 or at casembl@aol.com.

TACA Meeting— Talk About Curing Autism (TACA) will hold its next meeting on Tuesday December 7 at 6:30 pm, 9535 Kearny Villa Rd. #101, San Diego, CA 92126. The speaker will be Susan Daniels who will present info on the Sensory Learning Program and other multi-sensory therapies.

MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

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

Membership Type (includes National, State and SDASA Dues):	Is this a:	Payment
<input type="checkbox"/> Full Time Student \$25.00	<input type="checkbox"/> New Membership	<input type="checkbox"/> Check (payable to Autism Society of America)
<input type="checkbox"/> Individual \$40.00	<input type="checkbox"/> Membership Renewal	<input type="checkbox"/> Credit card # _____ Exp _____ name on card: _____
<input type="checkbox"/> Family Membership \$50.00		
<input type="checkbox"/> Autism Action Newsletter only - 1 year subscription \$10.00		
<input type="checkbox"/> Yes, I'd like to make an additional donation to the SDASA of \$ _____	How would you like to receive the Autism Action Newsletter? <input type="checkbox"/> US Mail <input type="checkbox"/> Email <input type="checkbox"/> Both methods <input type="checkbox"/> In Spanish	I am interested in helping the SDASA by: <input type="checkbox"/> Serving on the board <input type="checkbox"/> Special events <input type="checkbox"/> Newsletter <input type="checkbox"/> Legislative action <input type="checkbox"/> Parent Mentor <input type="checkbox"/> Fundraisers <input type="checkbox"/> Office Work <input type="checkbox"/> Speaker's Bureau
		What is your relationship to the person with Autism? (check all that apply): <input type="checkbox"/> Parent <input type="checkbox"/> Service Provider <input type="checkbox"/> Individual with Autism <input type="checkbox"/> Family Member <input type="checkbox"/> Medical Professional <input type="checkbox"/> Educator <input type="checkbox"/> Other : _____

Applications can be mailed to: Autism Society of America, P. O. Box 420908, San Diego, CA 92124
Or, you can join/renew online at www.SD-autism.org
Dues and Donations are Tax Deductible

Website: www.sd-autism.org
 Email: info@sd-autism.org
 (619) 298-1981
 San Diego, CA 92124
 P O Box 420908
 Autism Society of America
 SAN DIEGO COUNTY CHAPTER

