

President's Corner

Transitions

By Lynn Stipe

Transitions are hard for everyone. Every year our support group goes through changes. Changes in leadership, changes in policy, even changes in structure. All of this is hard for the group as well as for each individual in the group. With the right Support and preparation, things might not be easy; however, handling the change is always easier with a smiling face and a feeling of security when there is a focus in the new path.

The first stage in the transition is preparation. The ASNC-CCC Board has been planning for the upcoming year. There have been several meetings throughout the summer. Budgets have been set and it appears that a heightened sense of excitement has started to grow.

One of the main priorities we will have is an increased focus on support. Our meetings will be comprised of 10-15 minutes for Board business, in which, all members will play a part. Then we will have a Speaker or Speakers that will discuss topics of interest for 45 minutes. After that, we will spend the remaining time dealing with those things that face us as individuals, professionals, caregivers and as a group. We feel that by focusing in on our members we can be a better help to all. We also want to make sure that at least a portion of this time is spent on the successes, as well as, the challenges we all face.

(continued next column)

ASNC-CCC Board of Directors

- President ----- Lynn Stipe
- Vice President----- Collette Pendergrass
- Treasurer ----- Heather Park
- Secretary -----
- Awareness/Advocacy-----Rene Davenport
- Meeting/Recreational Coordinator ----- Maria Anthony
- Fundraising ----- Marlene Busser
- Christy Oatley
- Technical Advisor -----Steve Jordan
- Newsletter Editor-----Commie Pendergrass

The second part of transition is implementation. This can be the time when many people have difficulty dealing with the changes since things aren't the same as they used to be. We want everyone to feel comfortable in voicing their feelings about the changes so that we can help make this part of the transition easier for everyone. We will have many activities and numerous wonderful speakers throughout this next year. Our first fun-raising event, The Bowl-A-Thon, is in the planning stages and we hope to bring a lot of excitement to this occasion. It is our hope that this funding will help to make our many awareness and recreation events the success that everyone has come to expect from our group.

The final stage of all this is to assess. At the end of each event and at the end of the year we will take the time to look at each event and look at ways to make it better for the following years.

This is a living, breathing group and as it grows, we will continue to see changes.

Hopefully, these changes will be to the benefit of everyone. As a group, we can come together and complete the pieces of this Autism puzzle together.

Please feel free to contact me with any questions, comments or concerns via e-mail at lynnstipe@asnc-ccc.org.



Ask the Doctor

Dr. Joseph Stegman

Dr Stegman has graciously agreed to answer some of the many questions that our readers may encounter from a medical perspective. This issues question is:

**Dear Dr. Joe,
My child has Autism. Some say ABA works best for their children and others say Floor Time or TEACCH methods work best. Is there any one method that you have found to work for teaching those with Autism?
Sincerely, Puzzled**

Dear Frustrated,

I wish life was easy and I really wish that life with autism were easy but it is not. Let me try to define these methods or approaches to autism.

ABA stands for Applied Behavioral Analysis. TEACCH stands for Treatment and Education of Autistic and Communication Handicapped children. Floor Time uses the letters DIR to define its approach and it stands for Developmental, Individual-Differences and Relationship based method. There are many others used for autistic, on the west coast RDI is quite popular and it stands for Relationship Development Intervention.

They all have many similarities, they deal with one on one experiences with the goal of improving the function of children with autism spectrum disorders. They all stress quality time, engaging the child with advancing their development and ability to communicate. In many respects they are more similar than they are different. I think of them all as "Engagement Therapies". Engaging the child in a structured approach to education, socialization and communication.

How are they different? ABA uses behavior as the underlying approach, rewarding the child for appropriate engaged activity. TEACCH is an educational program and not just one method, but looks at multiple approaches to improve and educate children with spectrum disorders. Floor Time is relationship based in that it promotes the relationship with the individual as the method of engagement to other activities. RDI is more communication based though it uses relationships to promote proper development.

In the end it does not matter which program you use, they all work. It is about engaging your child in activities that promote the development of the skills that are lagging behind. Advancing development of social skills, communication and a wider range of interests.

TEACCH is the most different of all the methods that have been mentioned. The TEACCH approach is comprehensive and uses techniques found in all of the engagement therapies that have been identified. TEACCH is the approach our state school system uses to promote education of autistic children and it is extremely effective. In many respects education is the most important of all the concerns, if one gets to be 18 and he or she does not have basic educational skills then they will require more services and to function.

Most families find that using some ideas of the different methods, picking and choosing what works best, they can best serve their own child to engage them in appropriate activities so that the developmental process can advance successfully.
Dr Joe

Quotable Quote's

**When one door of happiness closes,
another opens, but often we look so long
at the closed door that we do not see the
one that has been opened for us.**

Helen Keller

Autism Society of North Carolina Inc. MISSION STATEMENT

The autism Society of North Carolina is committed to providing support and promoting opportunities which enhance the lives of individuals within the autism spectrum and their families.

VISION STATEMENT

The Autism Society of North Carolina strives to create a community where people within the autism spectrum and their families receive respect, services, and support based on individual differences, needs, and preferences

The Cabarrus County Chapter of the Autism Society of North Carolina does not endorse or advocate any particular form of treatment, service, or therapy. You must make judgments based on your own situation.

The information contained in this newsletter reflects the opinions of its contributors and is not intended to represent the positions of the Autism Society of North Carolina.

Autism 101

North Kannapolis Baptist Church
 312 Locust Street
 Kannapolis, North Carolina

Saturday, November 17th

**Please mark your
 calendars.**

**We have expanded this
 year to two sessions.**

**Early Session:
 10am to 12 pm**

**Late Session:
 1:30pm to 3:30pm**

**The same information will
 be covered in both
 sessions to help families
 with child care issues.**

**Please invite anyone with
 an interest in learning
 more about Autism.**

**For further information please
 contact Rene Davenport at
ReneDavenport@asnc-ccc.org**

Launch of Web-based Autism Video Glossary, YouTube and 100 Day Kit Among Highlights

NEW YORK, NY (September 10, 2007) -- Autism Speaks, a non-profit organization dedicated to increasing awareness of autism and funding autism research, today provided a preview of some of the many initiatives and events it has planned for Fall 2007. They include the introduction of a range of unique tools for families impacted by autism, new awareness efforts and events, and science-focused initiatives.

TOOLS FOR FAMILIES

Autism Video Glossary

In early October, Autism Speaks, together with First Signs and Florida State University, will launch a web-based video glossary to help parents learn more about the early warning signs of autism. The glossary will contain dozens of video clips and will be available to the public free of charge at www.autismspeaks.org, www.firstsigns.org, and firstwords.fsu.edu. The goal of the project is to help parents of not-yet-diagnosed or newly diagnosed children better understand some of the words and terms they might hear used in association with a diagnosis of autism. Video clips will illustrate such terms as social reciprocity, joint attention, sensory defensiveness, hand flapping, and echolalia. In most cases, side-by-side video clips will show behaviors that are typical in contrast with those that are red flags for autism. Video clips will also give parents short windows into the different types of therapies available for children with autism.

100 Day Kit

Autism Speaks is creating a "care package" that will be a valuable tool for parents of newly diagnosed children. At a time when parents feel particularly overwhelmed and might not know what to do or where to turn, the 100 day kit will provide critical information about where to find services and other help. It will also include organizational information to make the first few months after diagnosis a little less overwhelming. The kits will be available via autismspeaks.org beginning in October.

AWARENESS INITIATIVES

AutismSpeaksVids on YouTube Autism Speaks has joined with YouTube to create AutismSpeaksVids, a dedicated channel to help promote autism awareness online. The channel features a variety of clips from both professional and amateur sources. AutismSpeaksVids will host exclusive expert interviews, autism media coverage, ground-level fundraiser footage, advocacy efforts and more. And AutismSpeaksVids will draw from the submissions of the online community to bring a broad and varied look at autism and the individuals and families it affects. You can visit Autism Speaks' video channel, AutismSpeaksVids, at www.youtube.com/autismspeaksvids.

Our Group in Action

From:

Nancy Dartnall, Ph.D.
 Clinical Director
 Gastonia TEACCH Center

I want to thank you (Collette Pendergrass) and Marie Anthony and the others at the Cabarrus County ASNC group for the VERY generous donation of boxes and other containers which your husband brought us a few weeks ago!!! We just finished a 2 day Fundamentals training so we not only had plenty of containers for attendees to use at the training but encouraged them to take with them as many as they could use, which they did. And we still have plenty left! Thank you so very much for thinking of us and taking the time to collect and deliver the materials. We really appreciate your support!

Hey Food Lion shoppers do you have your MVP card linked to the Cabarrus County Autism Society. If you don't what are you waiting for? E-mail Marlene Busser at marlenebusser@asnc-ccc.org or go to Foodlion.com and register under fundraising

10 things to make you smile ☺

1. It's absolutely amazing how many stores have ceiling fans.
2. When I'm in the mood to answer the same question 300 times in a row, I know just who to go to.
3. I never have to be creative at dinner. Its chicken nuggets & peas. Every night! Or else :-)
4. I know where every fire hydrant is located in the entire city.
5. I had no idea there were so many uses for a household spoon.

(cont. page 5)

Past Spectrum Hero Awards

These awards were given to those individuals on the spectrum that have made amazing accomplishments in their life and community. We Celebrate Their Success!!



**Hannah Huneycutt
Social Butterfly**



**Donovan Nolan
YMCA Idol**



**Alisha Jordan
November 2006**



**Connor Stipe
September 2006**



**Johnny Davenport
April 2007**



**Steve Jordan,
Dan Flynn &
Karl Roe**

Our 2006 Soccer Coaches

**Who's
Next?????**



**Concord Mills
For
Heroes in Training**



**Cane Anthony
Scholastic Achiever**

**Do you know a Hero?
Do you know someone who has Autism?
Have they had accomplishments big or small?
Send their story to NewsLetterInfo@asnc-ccc.org**

We will be handing out another round of winners at our next meeting so please get those nominations in.

Happenings Here and There

McAlister's Nights

McAlister's Deli in Concord has once again agreed to help our group with their Bi-Monthly fund-raising food night.

**October 16th
December 18th**

Please join us from 5-9pm

McAlister's Deli will contribute 10% of all sales made during the scheduled hours above directly to our organization.

Come out and show your support and enjoy fellowship as well as great food!! See you there!

**Friendship Ministry
Kingsway Baptist Church
7550 Ruben Linker Rd
Concord, NC 28027
Sundays 5:30 to 7:00 pm
Starting September 9, 2007**

**Access Line for
Piedmont Behavioral Healthcare
1-800-939-5911**

ASNC Cabarrus County Chapter
Presents:

Autism Book Drive

This is an ongoing event

All books donated will be presented to our local libraries, as well as provide a resource for those in need in our area

Any new or used book in good condition, preferably on Autism Spectrum disorders, will be welcomed

For more inform please contact

Lynn Stipe at rstipe@carolina.rr.com

Need an Advocate?

We have a new address and new local phone number!

The ASNC provides advocates to assist in helping to explain a parent's rights in many situations. For more information contact:

ASNC Parent Advocates
10602 Bailey Rd, Suite E
Cornelius, NC 28031
704-894-9678 or

Toll Free in NC – 877-869-2762

Nancy Popkin

njpopkin@autismsociety-nc.org

or

Kim Tizzard

ktizzard@autismsociety-nc.org

Schedule of Upcoming Events

**The Autism Society of North Carolina
Cabarrus County Chapter**

Monthly Meetings

**Will be held on the second Thursday of
each month from September to May.**

**At Epworth United Methodist Church
1030 Burrage Rd NE
in Concord, NC**

from 6:30to 8:30pm

For more information, contact

lynnstipe-ccc-asnc@carolina.rr.com.

Family Support Network

What is Parent to Parent Support?

A parent to parent match pairs a trained support parent with a family seeking support.

This program provides:

An understanding listener for a family seeking support from someone who has "been there"
Practical suggestions for coping with day-to-day activities and concerns

If you are the parent of a child with special needs and would like to help other parents by offering a listening ear, please call our office at 704-788-1616 or 800-650-6526

**Recognition and
Acknowledgements**

**We would like to take a moment to
send out a special thanks to the
following individuals and groups that
have helped to make this Paper and
group [such a great success!**

Dr Joseph Stegman
Odell Recreation league
Cabarrus County Gymnastics
McAlister's Deli
Concord Printing
Nancy Popkin
Kim Tizzard
ASNC Board

Teacher's and Administrators of Cabarrus
County Schools

Teacher's and Administrators of Kannapolis
City Schools

West CabarrusYMCA
Belk Department Stores
Epworth United Methodist Church
Garrison and Pendergrass Families
White's Party Rentals Plus
J.S. Jordan Electric Service

Roma's Pizzeria
Miracle League
Tri/Meck Mechanical
Carolina's Caps and T's

Resources

Useful Websites:

You can visit us, The Cabarrus County Autism Society at:

autism-society-of-cabarrus-county@yahoogroups.com

or The ASNC at:

www.autismsociety-nc.org

The Arc of North Carolina -

<http://www.arcnc.org>

Family Support Network of North Carolina

<http://fsnnc.med.unc.edu>

North Carolina Division of Mental Health, Developmental Disabilities, and Substance Abuse

<http://www.dhhs.state.nc.us/mhddsas>

Social Security Administration

<http://www.ssa.gov>

Learning Disabilities On-line -

<http://ldonline.org>

Disability Resources -

<http://www.disabilityresources.org/index.html>

Individuals with Disabilities Education Act -

<http://www.mvcitymyplace.com/idea.htm>

National Dissemination Center for Children with Disabilities -

<http://www.nichcy.org>

Do 2 Learn -

<http://do2learn.com>

Support Works -

<http://www.supportworks.org>

Teleability -

<http://www.teleability.org/index.pl>

Special Child -

<http://www.specialchild.com/index.html>

Exceptional Children's Assistance Center -

<http://www.ecac-parentcenter.org>

Ident-A-Kid-

www.ident-a-kid.com

Autism Risk and Safety Newsletter-

www.autismriskmanagement.com

Project Lifesaver-

www.projectlifesaver.org

Law Enforcement Action Network-

www.leanonus.org/pages/1/index.htm

Vincent L. Pastore, PH.D.

Practicing Psychologist 704-662-3433

Piedmont Behavioral Healthcare

1-800-939-5911

Cabarrus County Services

The Arc of Cabarrus County - 704-788-1616

Cabarrus County Department of Social Services - 704-920-1400

Cabarrus County Schools - 704-786-6191

Cabarrus County Partnership for Children - 704-262-3793

Cabarrus County Health Alliance - 704-920-1200

Child Care Resource and Referral - 704-786-1023

Children's Advocacy Center - 704-783-1736

Children's Developmental Services Agency - (DEC) 704-786-9181

Consumer Planning and Support Services - 704-721-2700

Family support Network of the Southern Piedmont- 704-788-1616 or 800-650-6526

Kannapolis City Schools - 704-932-7433

Organizations Making a Difference



International Order of Rainbows for Girls
Of North Carolina

Many people know very little about this organization. But it is trying very hard to make a big impact in our lives. The International Order of Rainbows for Girls (IORG) is a Masonic affiliated service group with a membership of young ladies from 10 to 21 years old. Their core values center around their faith and putting it into action. They have done this in many forms. From visiting people in the Masonic Eastern Star Nursing Home to contributing time and energy to making bears for the Victory Junction Gang camps. The IORG of North Carolina was dealt a huge blow in October 2005 when a member of their State Executive Committee passed away from a battle with cancer. James "Pat" Garrison was involved with this organization for 20 plus years and it meant a great deal to him. When the Rainbow Girls heard a Grant was created in his honor they jumped at the opportunity to help such a worthwhile cause. They began collecting loose change from as many Masonic lodges that would let them in. One young lady applied to her professional fraternity at her university and received a large grant. Even friends of Rainbows got involved. A true friend of Rainbow matched the girls' donations dollar for dollar. This organization promises to continue its commitment for as long as it can. It has raised over three thousand dollars for our Grant to support Cabarrus County educators with their continuing efforts to educate our children.

It is with deep gratitude we say thank to these girls and all their supporters.

Welcoming Committee Connie Wagoner

Welcome, Welcome, Welcome! Whew, summer was busy, and HOT. I am looking forward to the cooler (well, maybe) weather ahead. Since joining the group last winter, (Proud Mommy of almost 3 year old Keely Jo), I have met some very inspirational, supportive, & understanding parents, educators, and therapists. I thank God for these people. It has just been a year now since our diagnoses of Classic Autism for Keely Jo, and let me tell you, I know what it's like to think you are the only one this is happening to. During the first four months my feelings were all over the place, why my child, no one will understand, is there help, where do we find it, did I mention no one will understand? Well, let me assure you that one of our goals is to let you know that WE DO UNDERSTAND. We support, encourage, listen, and help each other by sharing information and resources, and advocating for those affected with autism. Members of this group share one common bond, our lives are touched by someone with autism. To me, that makes us family, so welcome home. I look forward to another year, and the chance to help solve the puzzle, one piece at a time.

RECREATION CORNER

Carolinas Walk Day Details Saturday, October 6, 2007



Please join our team!!!!

Team Name: Autism Society of NC - Cabarrus County Chapter

Our Team Captain: Steve Jordan

Our team uniform will be our All-stars shirts.

Walk Day Schedule of Events

Location: Lowe's Motor Speedway - Concord, NC

Distance: 3 Laps of LMS track (est. 3.75 Miles)

Registration: 8:30 a.m.

Start Time: 10:00 am

Walk begins with a Kids Wagon Parade! Enter LMS from Hwy 29. Follow signs and access road to Gate 26. Registration will be located in the Nextel Cup Garage.

Ten things cont.

6. If I ever get insomnia, I'll always have company.
7. Sixty-four airplanes fly over my house every day.
8. If I develop a sudden fascination with vacuum cleaners, my child can tell me everything about them - as many times as I'm willing to listen.
9. Refrigerators can actually hum.
10. Buy new shirt. Remove tag. Wash 8 times. Ready to wear.

By Jene Aviram

<http://www.nlconcepts.com>

****IMPORTANT NOTE** -**

It is time to send out annual membership dues for the 2007 calendar year. Remember – A portion of your membership is sent directly back to our local ASNC here in Cabarrus County!!

Thanks for your continued Support!!

We Need Your Help - Become a Member!

Join the Autism Society of North Carolina
Membership Form

ASNC Membership (circle level)		ASA Membership (circle level)	
Family or individual*	\$30*	Family	\$35
Student	\$15	Individual	\$25
Contributing	\$50		
Supporting/Corporate/Agency	\$100		

*indicate ASNC Chapter name below and ASNC will give back \$10 to your local unit.

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Telephone (h) _____ (w) _____

Email _____

ASNC Chapter Name Cabarrus County Chapter of the ASNC

NC Residents: Would you like to be added to the summer camp mailing list? (Yes/No) _____

Type of membership(s) (e.g, asnc-family) _____ Total enclosed \$ _____

Mail all memberships, ASNC and ASA, to:
Autism Society of North Carolina
505 Oberlin Road, Suite 230, Raleigh, NC 27605-1345
To charge memberships call 1-800-442-2762

**ASNC – Cabarrus County Chapter
c/o Lynn Stipe – President
ASNC-Cabarrus County Chapter
P.O. Box 5702
Concord, NC 28025**

If you would like to
Receive a copy of
On The Spectrum
Via email, Send a request to
NewsLetterInfo@asnc-ccc.org
Thank you