



C.A.R.E. Coping with Autism through Research and Education

Southwest Chapter Autism Society of America

May 2004

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MONTHLY MEETING

Please join us the 1st Tuesday of each month (Tuesday May 4, 2004 this month) at 6:30 p.m. at the El Paso Center of the Deaf and Hard of Hearing located at 511 Executive Center Blvd. President Lisa Mitchell will have some announcements. We are having a Sibling Workshop for siblings of people with autism that are at least 6 years old and older. Michelle Lopez will be conducting this workshop. Michael Spurlock from Advocacy Inc. will have a presentation on Transitioning under IDEA Law. Creative Kids and Music Therapy will continue to be provided along with our childcare. Join us to discuss issues important to families and to network with others who understand. We will also be celebrating our moms since Mother's Day is just around the corner. Come early and look at our Resource Room where we have books and computers available. We have a Spanish version of the newsletter if you would like to get one please give us a call at (915) 532-6014. See you at the next meeting!

MONTHLY MEETINGS

General

Membership Meetings are held the first Tuesday of every month at the El Paso Center for the Deaf, 511 Executive Center Blvd. beginning at 6:30 p.m.

Board Meetings are held on the Monday, one week prior to the Membership meeting at 5:45 p.m.. All members are welcome to attend, and your input is always welcome.

ASA's 35th National Conference & Exposition on Autism Spectrum Disorders "Soaring to New Heights" July 7-10, 2004—Seattle, Washington—Washington State Convention & Trade Center

To register on line log on to www.autism-society.org

Early Bird Registration is now open

If you want more information call (915) 532-6014

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Shop at Albertson's and Blue Sage and contribute to SWASA.

Remember to show your Community Partners Card when you pay at Albertson's, if you don't have a card please come and pick one up from SWASA.

SAVE A TAPE program is what Blue Sage Supermarkets offers to the community. When you get your shopping receipt sign the back of it with Southwest Chapter Autism Society of America and give it back to the cashier, 2% of what you spend will come back to your organization.

JOIN US FOR FAMILY BOWLING NIGHT. We will be joining the El Paso Rehabilitation Center in their bowling night on Tuesday May 11, 2004 at 6:30 p.m. at Freeway Bowling Lanes (6926 Gateway East). The cost is \$2.00 per game and there is no need to rent shoes. Hope to see you there!

Infant Massage

The El Paso Rehabilitation Center is offering a training of 8 hours of infant massage in Spanish, but simultaneous interpretation into English will be available. Participants will learn about the purpose of infant massage, the types, techniques and procedures, as well as the relationship between the senses and the nervous system. Eida Quintanilla, EIS, and Certified Infant Massage Instructor

Dates: May 3, 4, 10 and 11

Time: 6:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m.

Location: 1101 E. Schuster Ave. (limited space)

Cost: Parents \$15

Childcare Providers: \$35

For better achievement and in order to receive a certificate of completion all participants must attend all sessions. For more information call Aurora at 544-8484.

REGION 19 TRAININGS

Region 19 ESC will be offering all of these Trainings on Autism and AU Spectrum Disorders for Spring 2004. All trainings are in English unless noted.

TEACCH Network Meetings (Summer 2003 Participants Only, Please) February 17 and May 11, 2004, 2:30-5:00 Event Code: 11111

Structured Teaching based on the TEACCH Model (Treatment and Education of Autistic and related Communication handicapped Children) SUMMER INSTITUTE June 5 (Saturday) and June 7-11, 2004 (6 days total) 8:00-4:00 at Del Valle High School

If you need help with registration call Mary at 780-5347.

For information on the trainings call Katherine Chacon at 780-5350

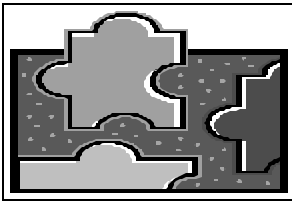
The El Paso Rehabilitation Center presents **ADHD: Building the 3-Way Partnership Family-School-Doctor** May 8, 2004 at the Ysleta Cultural Arts Center Chamizal Room, 9600 Sims 8:30 a.m.—1:00 p.m.
Pre-registration by May 5 - \$10.00
Late-registration after May 5 - \$15.00
No childcare available
For information call Lydia Hernandez at (915) 544-8484

Special Thanks to Mr. Jerry Tanzy from Tanzy & Borrego for donating to this organization

PRESIDENT'S COLUMN
BY LISA MITCHELL

For those of you who were able to attend our 5th Annual International Conference on Autism, we thank you for your support and success of the conference. Raun Kaufman was a dynamic speaker and passionate about helping people break down the barriers that hide the potential of the children with autism. The methods he uses are based on research and techniques used in the Son-Rise Program, but it was refreshing, and positive approach. Their theory is based on the idea that "children show us the way in, and then we show them the way out." It encourages accepting and loving your child the way he/she is and participating in their repetitive behaviors. Rather than forcing our children to conform to a world that they don't understand, we enter their world first. This helps decrease their behavior and increases the amount of attention your child will focus on you to learn appropriate behavior. It can help improve the relationship between you and your child.

It was optimistic and hopeful approach. In the handout package, Mr. Kaufman states "Hope is the spark that ignites the human spirit! Hope leads to action. Without action, none of our children can be helped. There is no false hope, only false pessimism. You don't ever have to apologize for hoping for your child." You are your child's best teacher and advocate. Don't be afraid to hope or fight for their rights. Love them and accept them and speak up for them if their needs are not being met. They are special children and we can learn from them as much as they can learn from us. We all need help and support, so come by the SWASA office to borrow Raun Kaufman's book or video or other books and magazines we have to offer. The more informed you are, the better choices you can make for your child.



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Southwest Autism
Society of America
511 Executive Center
Blvd.
El Paso, TX 79902

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In This Issue...

SIBLING WORKSHOP & TRANSITIONING UNDER IDEA LAW

Submit Stories about your Children to the News Letter

We want to know more about your children and your entire family. Please share your family's activities, events, and endeavors with all of us through the SWASA News Letter. We would like each family to contribute a story about your children's accomplishments, hobbies, likes and dislikes.

You may mail your stories to SWASA office at 511 Executive Center Blvd., El Paso, Texas, 79902, e-mail us at autism@elpbizclass.com, fax us at 532-6015 or contact our office at 532-6014. Also please submit a photo of your child or family along with your story. Visit our website at www.autism@swasa.com

