



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

Southwest Chapter Autism Society of America

November 2003

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**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.

*MONTHLY MEETING*

*Please join us the 1st Tuesday of each month (Tuesday November 4, 2003 this month) at 6:30 p.m. at the Deaf Center, located at 511 Executive Center Blvd. President Lisa Mitchell will have some announcements. We will have a presentation by Rosie Carrasco on what she learned at the National Autism Conference this summer in Pittsburgh. Michelle Lopez will have a Sibling Workshop while Parents learn the latest on Autism. Creative Kids will be here. Childcare and refreshments will be available. Please join us to discuss issues important to families and to network with others who understand! Come early and look at our Resource Room where we have books and computers with internet access where you can get information on Autism. Call us at (915) 532-6014 if you would like to come in during the week and we will schedule a time to meet.*

**Autism and ASA Leader “In the News”**

On the surface, it might not seem like *Good Housekeeping* and *Exceptional Parent* Magazines have a whole lot in common. But if you look closely, you will see that they indeed do: both have feature articles about autism in one of their fall issues. In the October 2003 issue of *Exceptional Parent* magazine, you will find a six-page article by Stephen Shore, an ASA Board Member and committed advocate for individuals with autism. In the article, “Life on and Slightly to the right of the Autism Spectrum: A Personal Account,” Shore talks openly and honestly about what it is like to have autism. In the November 2003 issue, *Good Housekeeping* magazine includes a nine-page article entitled: “This is what autism looks like...,” which tells the story of three children, each with different forms of autism.

Help for Children with Unsafe Behavior

Senior Technologies, a member of The Stanley Works corporation, has been working on a major initiative to help to protect children with autism using the same technology that has been used for other populations, particularly the elderly. Stanley Technologies just launched [www.autism-ally.com](http://www.autism-ally.com) an e-commerce website that offers products to enhance a child’s behavior modification program. Autism Ally products are designed to provide managed freedom for the child in your care. (next page)

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The Wander Guard “selective monitoring” system, TABS portable door alarm, CCTV, and Stop Siren make it easier to monitor children with behaviors such as running, no fear of danger, seclusion, and communication deficiencies. Because Stanley-Senior Technologies is a manufacturer of healthcare safety systems, purchase of this equipment may qualify for “environmental modification” funding or reimbursement through some state waiver or private grant programs.

*SAVE THE DATE! 5th Annual International Conference  
“Breakthrough Strategies for Autism Spectrum Disorders”*

*Friday April 2, 2004*

*at Ysleta Cultural Arts Center.*

*Presenting Raun K. Kaufman*

*(Fully Recovered from Autism)*

International writer, lecturer, and teacher for the Son-Rise Program at the Autism Treatment Center of America. He will discuss his own personal story and key principals for his recovery. The lecture will be interactive. The material presented is designed for parents and professionals caring for children challenged by Autism Spectrum Disorders and other related difficulties, as well as educators and students studying or working with children with special needs. His story was depicted in the award-winning NBC television movie Son-Rise: A Miracle of Love.

New Support Group for Parents of Children with Any Disability—

SeekingJoyinDisability@yahoo.com. [Http://groups.yahoo.com/group/SeekingJoyinDisability](http://groups.yahoo.com/group/SeekingJoyinDisability)

Having a child with a disability is not a “joyful” experience to have to go through...But there can be JOY in life with a disability...That is what I hope to do with this list...Help hurting parents find Hope, Inspiration, and Encouragement from a Christian perspective. This is for those who are “seeking” encouragement and want to find “Joy” in the midst of life with a disability...If you are hurting-you can come here for insight from others who have been there and gone through that! Prayer support, Encouragement, Poems, Tributes, Stories of hope, anything uplifting is welcome here!! Contact Michelle Guppy for more information [MichelleMGuppy@yahoo.com](mailto:MichelleMGuppy@yahoo.com).

## Upcoming Events

Region 19 ESC will be offering all of these Trainings on Autism and AU Spectrum Disorders for the Fall 2003-2004. All trainings are in English unless noted.

TEACCH Network Meetings Summer 2003 Participants Only, Please August 9 2003, November 25 2003, February 17, 2004 and May 11 2004.  
Event Code: 11111

Key Elements for Teaching Students with Autism: 4 Part Series September 22-23, 2003 and November 10-11. Event Code: 11120

Visual Strategies for Improving Communication: Workshop and Make-n-Take November 17-18.  
Event Code: 11117

PMS (Positive Management Strategies) for Students with ASPERGER’S and other Social Cognitive Differences in the Regular Education Classroom. December 1-2 2003. Event Code: 11115

All events will require Pre-Registration (use Event Codes provided).

**Journey to Solutions 2003**– Autism Society of Los Angeles- November 14-16, 2003 for more info call (818) 242-9108 or email [conference@jaynolan.org](mailto:conference@jaynolan.org)

**Building Foundations for the Future**– Stanley Greenspan, M.D. and Serena Wieder, Ph.D. – September 19-20, 2003 in Chicago, Illinois for more info call (312) 747-4300 or visit [www.chipublib.org](http://www.chipublib.org).

**Autism/Asperger’s 2003** —Temple Grandin, Ph.D., Mary Wrobel, Diane Murrell, James Yerman November 14, 2003 in Houston, Texas for more information call (800) 489-0727.

**Autism and Disorders of Relating and Communicating**—November 7-9, 2003 in Virginia (DC Metro Area) Several speakers. For more information call (915) 532-6014.

**KARATE CLASSES**

We are taking names of kids that would like to start coming to Sal's Karate (inside of the Deaf Center) for Karate Classes. He is very patient and is willing to work with our kids. If you are interested please call SWASA's office at (915) 532-6014 to sign up. We are still trying to decide on a day and time, we would like your input. He is willing to work with us on a price. Sign your kids up and participate.

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

Remember to show your Community Partners Card when you pay at Alberston'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 November 11, 2003 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.

**El Paso Rehabilitation Center is having Play at the Park Days**

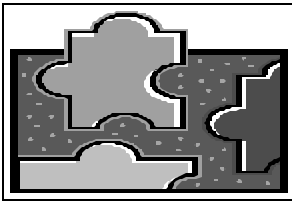
On Saturday November 22, 2003 from 10:00 a.m. to noon at the Mary Webb Park across from the Leona Ford Washington Community Center on 3400 Missouri Avenue. Join us for fun, inclusive outdoor games. Some activities include basketball, parachute games, kickball, soccer, and much more! There is no charge to participate, so come and enjoy the beautiful fall weather and get some exercise. For more info call Kirsten at 544-8484 ext. 140.

El Paso Rehabilitation Center is having a presentation on How to be a Better Advocate on November 5, 2003 from 9:00 a.m.-1:00 p.m. with Vicky Hernandez who is the Regional Director of West Texas Parent Education Network, for more info. Call 544-8484.

**Chaka Khan Book Includes Loving Glimpse of Her Nephew with Autism**

ASA Member Chaka Kahn, this week releases her autobiography entitled Chaka!: Through the Fire. In her new book, Grammy-award winning singer/songwriter Chaka Khan tells her story of the woman behind the diva and her experiences facing life head on. She also talks about the day her nephew, Tallon, was diagnosed with autism.

Ms. Kahn has been a singing sensation since the 1970s and is known across the generations. Some of her smash hits include: "Tell Me Something Good," "Once You Get Started," and "Everlasting Love," to name a few.



SWASA  
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 EL PASO, TX.  
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NATIONAL AUTISM CONFERENCE PRESENTATION & SIBLING WORKSHOP

## 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@whc.net](mailto:autism@whc.net), 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](http://www.autism@swasa.com)

