

AUTISM

ASGC NEWSLETTER

FROM THE PRESIDENT'S DESK

First Word - July 2007

I wish to thank all of the individuals and businesses that have been a part of the dramatic growth of our vital organization over the past two years. The ASGC has a larger team providing information, advocacy and support to more people than ever. That being said, we are ever mindful of our plan for the future and realize so much work is left to be done. If you feel compelled to serve the autism community in Greater Cleveland, we invite you to join our team. Soon we will be organizing new committees to address these new objectives, including the training of aides for local schools of religious education, relating information on autistic behavior to first responders and raising the bar on autism awareness locally. We look to the experience of our membership as a critical component to

achieving these objectives, so please let us know if you feel you could assist us in any way- chances are you probably could.

For our July meeting, we had the great pleasure of hosting a presentation and Q&A session with Ms. Barrie G. Galvin, OTR/L, Owner and Clinical Director of Barrie Galvin and Associates, Ltd. Her wealth of experience and genuine openness with parents on her multidisciplinary approach was very engaging and educational. Thank you Barrie, it was time well spent for all of us.

We are also grateful to our speaker for our upcoming August meeting, Leslie Sinclair, M.A., CCC/SLP. As Program Director for The Cleveland Clinic Center for Autism, she has had a front-row seat to some key elements of progress in the treatment of individuals with autism. We invite you to join us on August 7.

Mostly, we are appreciative for all that you do for the Autism Society of Greater Cleveland. We strive to always be the Cleveland area's premier source of autism advocacy, support and unbiased information. You are the reason that is possible.

Sincere Thanks-
Gus Gallucci, V.P., ASGC

Autism Society of
Greater Cleveland

JULY, 2007

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Chapter Meetings

All are welcome to the monthly ASGC meetings!

When: 1st Tuesday of each month

Time: 6:30pm

Where: Cuyahoga Valley Career Center, 8001 Brecksville Rd. in Brecksville.

Your children are welcome, thanks to STEPS Behavioral Consulting!

(Please RSVP the number of children attending)

Info or RSVP (216) 556-4937.

Autism Society of Greater Cleveland Officers:

Rory McLean
President

Gus Gallucci
Vice-President

John Hearn
Treasurer

Laurene Sweet
Secretary

ASGC
P.O. Box 41066
Brecksville, Ohio 44141

NEWS FROM THE
**AUTISM SOCIETY OF
GREATER CLEVELAND**

October 20,
2007!

***Cleveland's Country Cares to host
Benefit Concert for the ASGC!***

Cleveland's Country Cares is a 100% non-profit organization, put together by members of the local country music community as a way to give something back to the people of our city. Every cent other than direct event related expenses goes direct to the selected recipient organization. The participating bands and sponsors have volunteered their time and products to this organization. The Autism Society of Greater Cleveland is grateful for the opportunity to benefit from this dedicated organization!



Date: Saturday, October 20, 2007

Time: 12:00 pm to 1:00am

Place: The Doubletree Hotel, Independence, Ohio

Tickets: \$10 in advance or \$15 at the door

(Tickets to go on sale at the end of July)

**Black River Band, The Curtis Brothers, Kentucky Thunder,
Laredo, Loud Mouth Cowboy, North of Texas,
Shameless, and The Tabloid Twangers**

LINE DANCE LESSONS by Mary Harwood and Ronna Murray

ASGC
Autism Society of Greater Cleveland

Join the Autism Society of Greater Cleveland!

Dues for the Autism Society of Greater Cleveland are **only \$5.00** per year.

Checks for dues or donations can be sent to:

ASGC
P.O. Box 41066
Brecksville, Ohio 44141

Check out our website at www.asgc.org!

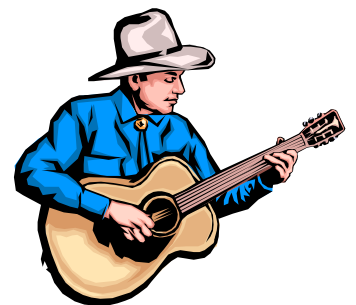
Door Prizes and Raffle Items Needed for Benefit Concert

Please help Cleveland's Country bands as they reach out to help the Autism Society of Greater Cleveland. Eight talented Country Bands are working together to raise money for this worthwhile cause. The money raised stays in our community, and will help in many ways.

Please help Cleveland's Country Cares Inc. by giving donations of Door Prizes and Raffle Items These gifts are so very much appreciated.

For more information contact Todd Bub at: 440-686-0850 or Barb Haselow at: 440-886-6157

For the latest information, visit www.clevelandcountrycares.org.



Upcoming Speakers for ASGC Meetings

August 7th: Leslie Sinclair, M.A., CCC/SLP, Program Director, Cleveland Clinic Center for Autism

September 4th: Dr. Phil DeMio, DAN Protocol Physician and Father of a child with autism

DIRECTIONS TO THE CUYAHOGA
VALLEY CAREER CENTER
<http://www.asgc.org/events.htm>

Meetings are from 6:30 to 8:30 PM

NEWS FROM THE AUTISM SOCIETY OF OHIO

Get Your Ohio Autism Awareness License Plate!

Visit your Local BMV or Order Your License Plate Online! Ohio State residents now can show their support for persons with autism, their families and service providers with the Ohio Autism Awareness license plate. To order an Ohio Autism Awareness License plate, call 1-800-589-8247 or visit the Ohio State BMV's website at <http://www.plates.com/>.

**ASGC to receive
\$7.50 for each
plate sold!**

Why Should I buy an Ohio Autism Awareness license plate?

- 1 out of every 150 children born today will be diagnosed with autism
- Between 39,000 and 58,000 persons living in Ohio have autism spectrum disorder.
- \$25 from every license plate purchased goes to support the programs of the Autism Society of Ohio
- It helps provide awareness of autism and the Autism Society of Ohio
- The plate costs only \$35 over the regular costs of a license plate



Author Seeks Everyday Heroes of Autism for Profile in New Book Entitled 1 Out of Every 150

Writer and author John Sprecher - whose 21-year-old son Jeff has autism, and who in 1991 founded Special Kids, a video modeling company that has helped children with autism in 30 countries learn - is seeking nominations for "everyday heroes of autism" for a new book he plans to publish in 2008, entitled 1 Out of Every 150. Examples Sprecher cites are parents or persons who've established foundations for research; public awareness groups or campaigns; new and effective products, programs or services in the treatment or care of autism; or schools or residences. Nominations should be in the form of 100 words describing the person's situation, child with autism and accomplishments, and include name, address, city, state, zip, telephone and email. Nominations should be made by November 30, 2007, and submitted to:

Mail: "150", c/o John Sprecher, P.O. Box 869, Sanibel, FL 33957

or

E-mail: "150" (in subject line), email to johns@make-noise.com

For more information, visit <http://1outofevery150.blogspot.com/>

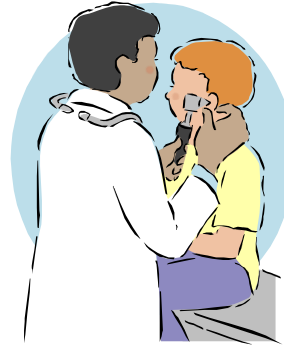


www.autismohio.org

Help Ensure Affordable Healthcare to More Ohioans!

Ohio's House and Senate committees on health care are holding joint hearings this summer around the state. They want to hear from Ohioans about expanding access to affordable coverage to more Ohioans. Will the legislators' solutions provide coverage that gets people the health care they need without financial hardship? The hearing dates and cities are:

July 30th	5:30 PM – 7:30 PM	Cleveland
July 31st	5:30 PM – 7:30 PM	Toledo
August 6th	5:30 PM – 7:30 PM	Springfield
August 7th	5:30 PM – 7:30 PM	Zanesville
August 8th	5:30 PM – 7:30 PM	Sharonville



Stories about the experiences of real people are essential to securing adequate coverage. **Lawmakers need to hear about real people in order to understand why adequate health coverage matters in the lives of individuals and their families.** And we get media attention when reporters can write about the people impacted by government's decisions.

July 30, 2007: The meeting in Cleveland will be held from 5:30 p.m. - 7:30 p.m. at the Southwest General Health Center, 18697 Bagley Road in the L. Jon Schurmier Building of the Williams Conference Center. The public can give testimony about their experiences and needs with healthcare in Ohio.

UHCAN Ohio, a healthcare advocacy organization, will provide help with writing stories. Contact Kathleen Gmeiner of UHCAN Ohio at 614-443-2845 or by e-mail at kgmeiner@columbus.rr.com for more information.

Walgreens Hires People with Cognitive and Intellectual Disabilities

Walgreens is building new distribution centers. Currently there are 14 centers with one in Perrysburg, Ohio. These centers will employ hundreds of people with disabilities. Every job is open to people with disabilities. This includes management jobs! In fact, they are actively seeking qualified people with cognitive and intellectual disabilities. Why does Walgreens want to make an extra effort to hire workers with cognitive and intellectual disabilities? "Because this is a group that is seldom offered real jobs. We want to change that. We think we can." Source: Walgreens Outreach website

Walgreens features a user friendly website with online job finding capabilities. Find out more at www.walgreensoutreach.com.



Autism Society of America (ASA) is the leading voice and resource of the entire autism community in education, advocacy, services, research and support. ASA accomplishes its ongoing mission through close collaboration with a successful network of chapters, members and supporters. Check out the ASA website at www.autism-society.org.



Operation Adventure: A Camp Experience for Children with Autism Spectrum Disorder

Camp gives children with ASD an opportunity to engage with others who are similar in age and interests to themselves, providing opportunities for adventure and exploration of new and sometimes challenging activities. By structuring the environment with supports that provide for their needs and utilize campers' strengths and build their skills, camp experiences can positively impact a child.

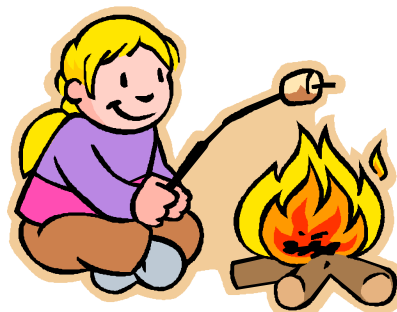
When: August 7-10, 2007 (Overnight Camp!)

Where: Cuyahoga Valley Environmental Education Center

Who: Children with ASD ages 8-14

Cost: \$325 per camper

Space is limited! Send you applications in soon!



More information is available on the OCALI website: http://www.ocali.org/family/fs_events.php

If you have questions, please contact:

Jill Hudson - camp coordinator at OCALI

Jill.Hudson@ocali.org

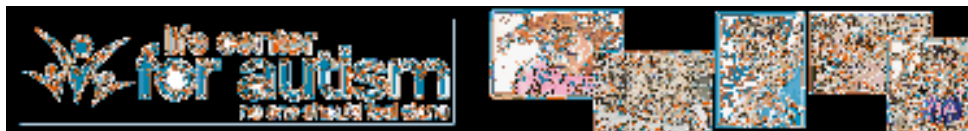
Chelsea Cohen - Program Director at Cuyahoga Valley National Park Association

ccohen@cvnnpa.org

Life Center for Autism Raises Funds for Activity Center

Life Center for Autism Foundation, www.lifecenterforautism.org, has the mission to socially enhance the lives of those who struggle with autism spectrum disorders. The immediate goal of the Life Center for Autism is to build a specialized activity center in southern Cuyahoga County, Ohio. This center will provide a wide variety of social and recreational experiences to all children, adolescents, adults, families, caregivers and friends affected by ASD.

Life Center for Autism Foundation is grateful for donor support. Without the caring efforts of many, our mission would be unachievable. No donation is too big or too small. If you are interested in donating to our mission please contact Dave May at 440-915-7086. Also, to help raise funds for this amazing project, the LCA is hosting the LCA Golf Classic and the Party of Dreams, sponsored by National City Bank and Basista Furniture on July 30th. Please, show your support and join in the fun!



Local Events

Saturday, July 28th: **Easter Seals** is sponsoring the "Walk with Me" 5K walk at the Cleveland Metroparks Zoo to help people with disabilities. Register or donate at http://wmm.easterseals.com/site/TR?pg=entry&fr_id=1801.

Monday, July 30th: **Life Center for Autism** is sponsoring the LCA Golf Classic (during the day) and Party of Dreams (in the evening) at the Weymouth Country Club in Medina, Ohio. Find out more at www.lifecenterforautism.org.

Thursday, August 9th: **ACE Academy**, an alternative education program for children with autism, is hosting an Open House and Cook Out from 4-7 pm at 28700 Euclid Ave. in Wickliffe. Food, petting zoo, prizes, and games. RSVP by calling 440-943-7012. The school has been remodeled/expanded and it is under new ownership. Call for a tour.

Sunday, August 26th: **Bellefaire JCB** is sponsoring the 12th Annual Biathlon and Walk. Register online at <http://www.bellefairejcb.org/announcements/events/12th-annual-biathlon-%26-walk/>

September 26-28th: **ASA**: Network of Autism Training and Technical Assistance Programs in cooperation with the ASA is sponsoring the 1st Annual International NATTAP Conference. The event will be hosted by OCALI (Ohio Center for Autism and Low Incidence) in Columbus. <http://www.autismohio.org/images/nattapfirstannualconference.pdf>

September 30th: **Autism Speaks** is sponsoring the Walk now for Autism event at Jacobs field. Registration starts at 9am and the walk begins at 10am. Find out more at www.walknow.org

Take Me Home Program in Summit County

The Summit County Sheriff's office is excited about bringing to Summit County a new program designed to provide enhanced service and protection to citizens with special needs. The **Take Me Home** program is a database that is maintained by the Prosecutor and Sheriff's Offices. The database contains individuals who may need special assistance if they are alone or lost, and is for anyone with a disability that impacts their capacity to communicate. The system includes a picture, demographic information and caregiver contacts. If a person in the **Take Me Home** system is encountered by a law enforcement officer, the officer can query the system by name or by the person's description to locate the person's **Take Me Home** enrollment record. With the information at hand the officer can appropriately assist the individual. For more information, go to <http://www.co.summit.oh.us/Prosecutor/index.htm>. Just look for the **Take Me Home** logo. Contacts: Laurie Cramer cramer@prosecutor.summitoh.net; Sgt. Brian Westover bwestover@sheriff.summitoh.net.

NE OHIO AUTISM SPEAKS WALK NOW FOR AUTISM SPONSORED BY TOYS "R" US

Thousands of individuals, families and friends whose lives are impacted by autism will join together to raise much-needed funds for critical scientific research and to increase awareness about a growing health crisis that now affects 1 in every 150 children at the annual **Cleveland and Northeast Ohio Autism Speaks Walk Now for Autism on Sunday, September 30, 2007 at 10:00 am at Jacobs Field**. Joining the walkers at this year's event, sponsored by Toys "R" Us, will be special guest Ronn Richard, CEO of The Cleveland Foundation and parent of a teenager with ASD. Also joining us via a special video message will be Patricia Heaton, **Emmy Award**-winning **actress** best known for her role as Debra Barone on the **CBS** television sitcom **Everybody Loves Raymond**. All proceeds from the event benefit the national advocacy organization Autism Speaks. For more information about the walk and how to join the effort by walking, contributing or volunteering, please contact Beth Whitehouse by calling (412) 487-6851 or by emailing clevelandwalk@autismspeaks.org



Do you have some news or information to share?
Send information by email to lauresweet@yahoo.com by the 12th of each month.
We will share information, provided that space is available. Thank you!

Autism Society of Greater Cleveland

P. O. Box 41066
Brecksville, Ohio 44141

Phone: 216-556-4937

"The mission of ASGC is to serve the autism community by providing information, coordinating support services, and facilitating communication for the benefit of those with Autism Spectrum Disorder from diagnosis through adulthood."

The ASGC is a 501(c)3 non-profit, all volunteer organization.

Your donations are tax deductible and we welcome your support!

To learn more, call us or log on to:
www.asgc.org

The information in this newsletter is for educational purposes only. The Autism Society of Greater Cleveland does not endorse any specific product, method of therapy or organization. Our aim is to provide information that assists our membership in making educated decisions.

Thank you for your support!

Autism Conferences and Courses

Two-Day PECS (Picture Exchange Communication System) Training Workshop.

July 23-24 from 8:00-4:00 at the Holiday Inn Cleveland South in Independence. The presenter is Anthony Castrogiovanni, Ph.D.

Course Fee: \$425

For more information, please email at pyramid@pecs.com or call Toll Free 1-888-732-7462 or visit www.pecs.com

A Collaborative Conference on Autism with Low Incidence Disabilities

July 30-August 1 from 8:00-4:00 at The Crowne Plaza Columbus North, 6500 Doubletree Avenue, Columbus, Ohio 43229. Sponsored by OCALI with multiple presenters.

Course Fee: \$175

For more information, call 614-410-0321 or visit the website at <http://www.ocali.org/collaborative/>

Basic Principles in Applied Behavior Analysis

August 16-17 from 9:00-3:00 at the Cleveland Clinic Shaker Campus-Conference Room B, 2801 Martin Luther King Jr. Drive, Cleveland 44104.

Course Fee: \$300

For more information, contact Jennifer Manning at 216-721-5400 or visit the CCF website at <http://cms.clevelandclinic.org/childrenshospital/body.cfm?id=616>
