



# Kalamazoo/Battle Creek Chapter Autism Society of America



## May 2006 Newsletter

[www.asa-kal.org](http://www.asa-kal.org) 800-628-6421

*“Connecting individuals within the autism spectrum, as well as their community, with life-long access to resources and opportunities through advocacy, education, research, and public awareness.”*

### 2006-07 Meeting Schedule

*Social Time begins at 6:30 p.m.  
Meeting begins at 7:00 p.m.*

*Location: Croyden Avenue School*

**May 9, 2006-**

***Social Meeting and Summer Recreation Ideas.***

***Future Meeting Dates:***

**October 10, 2006**

**November 14, 2006**

### 2006-2007

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### Walk About Talk About Autism 2006

April 22, 2006 was the date for our third annual Walk About Talk About Autism event. This year again was a successful event. We had record attendance, beautiful weather, awesome volunteers, and good food. We were excited to see so many families come out to the Celery Flats to participate in our event. April is Autism Awareness month and our goal is to celebrate this month with our children. We want to acknowledge the good things in their lives and the many things that they have taught us. We want to thank the caregivers and professionals that work and interact with our children every day. They say it takes a village to raise a child and our community has so many great people in it that embrace our children and help them learn and grow. This event is a time to take notice of all of the great things in our lives. So far we have grossed nearly ten thousand dollars from this year's event. Thank you!!

Please mark your calendars for next year's event—April 21, 2007.



### Thank you to our Sponsors and Volunteers

The following businesses donated generously to our event this year. We would like to take this opportunity to acknowledge them and thank you all for your support. We could not host an event like this without them. Please visit these businesses to show your support.

Pfizer, Goggin Rental, Main St. Pub, Kellogg's, Olive Garden, Blimpie Subs, Roe Comm, Carabba's, Kansas City Bar and Grill, Treat Street, Red Robin, Finley's, Amy block, Panera Bread, Ample Pantry, Party Lite, Longaberger, Kenn Livingston, Remax—Gretchen Smith Group, Stage Lighting & Sound, Stellar Promotions, Outback Steakhouse, Country Wide Lending, Jimmy John's, and Marshall Field's.

We would also like to thank the many college students that came out to volunteer for us. Safety is an important issue and many students from K-College and Western came out to lend a hand. We appreciate them all. A special thank you to Lourin who has organized the K College students for us for the last two years. We appreciate every one of you that came to help us. We had a few high school students come out this year and earn some community service hours. We encourage anyone willing to help to join us for next years.

### **Pre-Register for Childcare**

We are happy to provide **free childcare for children with autism and their siblings** from 6:45 to 8:45 during our Chapter Meetings. We will provide structured activities and learning opportunities for this children during this time. Pre-registration is very important in order to insure that there is adequate staffing for the safety of every child. Please drop off your child between 6:45-7:00. If you plan to attend please call at 800-628-6421 ex. 5 leave a message with ages of your children.

### **Directions**

To get to **Croyden Avenue School**, take US 131 to the West Main (M-43) exit. Go east on West Main to Drake Road. Turn North (left). Take a right at the first light to Croyden Avenue, you'll see the circle drive of the School immediately on the left.

## Upcoming Events

### May 9th, ASA-KAL Meeting at Croyden Avenue School

Summer is almost here. What will your kids do this summer?

A Guest Speaker from Parent to Parent will join us at the our May 9th meeting to discuss the Rec Expo and other opportunities for kids with special needs. Come and share your ideas with other parents.

### Battle Creek ASD Support Group

May 16, 6:00-7:30 PM

Doris Klaussen Developmental Center. Childcare provided please call ahead to Shannon Porter at 964-2136, ext. 231 to RSVP or with questions. This group is supported by the CISD social workers.

### Parent to Parent Garden Arts and Plant Sale

May 27, 8:00 AM to 3:00 PM

(Rain or Shine) Bring your wagons, carts and containers.

Cloverleaf RV Sales and Storage, 1 mile south of Schoolcraft corner of US 131 and XY avenue.

### ASA 367th Annual ASA Conference

"Lighting the way to Hope" July 12 - 15, 2006

Providence, Rhode Island. For more information call 1-301-657-0881, ext. 7 or visit [www.autism-society.org](http://www.autism-society.org).



Autism Awareness car magnets, lapel pins, and bracelets are available for purchase at our meetings!



[www.autism-society.org](http://www.autism-society.org)

Visit *AutismSource*, ASA's one-of-a-kind directory of Chapters, professionals, resources and providers serving families affected by autism.

## Help build this resource!

This national database needs our community listings. Please ask service providers you use to visit the website and add their information. Think of these categories: Consultants, Dentists, Information and Support, Medical and Diagnostic, Psychologists, Research, Training, Camps and Recreation, Day School, Governmental Agency, Legal/Advocacy, Physicians, Related Services, and Service Providers. With everyone's help we can build a directory that will provide faster connections to support and therapy.

## Join Our Local Chapter!

**We can use your help as a member of the Kalamazoo/Battle Creek Chapter-Autism Society of America!**

By becoming a member of our local chapter, you are helping to support printing and postage for the newsletter as well as receiving voting rights. If you are already a member of the national organization, only \$10 should be sent for local chapter dues.

Please make checks payable to: **Kalamazoo/BC Autism Society** and mail to: Kalamazoo/BC Autism Society of America; Croyden Avenue School; 4606 Croyden Avenue; Kalamazoo, MI 49006.