



Kalamazoo/Battle Creek Chapter Autism Society of America

November 2005 Newsletter

www.asa-kal.org



“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.”

2005-06 Meeting Schedule

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

December 13, 2005-

**Guest Speaker, Candis Warner
Speech Pathologist**

Future Meeting Dates:

February 7, 2006

Board of Directors

Kim Prater

President, kprater@asa-kal.org

Carey Whitfield

Chairman of the Board, cwhitfield@asa-kal.org

Cyndi Carstens, Vice-President—Calhoun County, ccarstens@asa-kal.org

Katrina Wood, Vice-President—Kalamazoo County, Fundraising, kwood@asa-kal.org

Jean Steele

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Brenda Gagie

KRESA Liaison, bgagie@asa-kal.org

Karrie Kemery

Treasurer, kkemery@asa-kal.org

Sheri Marvin

CISD/CDC-Act Early, Project Lifesaver, smarvin@asa-kal.org

Betty Schimmel

Autism Awareness Holiday Cards, bracelets, and other items are available for purchase at this month's **Stop and Shop!**



www.autism-society.org

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

2nd Annual Stop and Shop

Saturday, November 12, 1:00-6:00 PM

At Lee's Inn, Portage Road south off of 94, just behind Theo and Stacy's restaurant.

Participating Vendors include: Longaberger, Pampered Chef, Tastefully Simple, Usborne Books, Creative Memories, Party Lite, Discovery Toys, Premiere Jewelry, Home and Garden and Avon.

Portion of Sales benefit our chapter activities!
Questions? Call Trina at 372-1509.

United Way Contributions to ASA

Annual United Way Pledge campaigns are beginning at many workplaces. Your United Way contributions can be designated to be received by our chapter and directly impact our Autism community. Ask your employer for a designation form along with your pledge card and fill in the name and address of our chapter. Autism Society of America-Kalamazoo/Battle Creek Chapter, 4606 Croyden Avenue, Kalamazoo, MI 49006. We are a non-profit 501 (c)(3) corporation. Your contributions are tax-deductible.

New Phone Number 1-800-628-6421

Our chapter has a new toll-free telephone number. The phone number has several extensions for you to leave messages. Please pass this phone number to those you encounter who are new to the community or newly diagnosed. We want to be the number one resource for Autism is Kalamazoo and Calhoun Counties. Ext. 1 —Trina Wood, Kalamazoo County. Ext. 2—Cyndi Carstens for Calhoun County. Ext. 3—Bev Bishop for Project Lifesaver. Ext 4.—Kim Prater, President. Ext. 5—Child Care

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 so the activity groups can begin together. If you plan to attend please 1-800-628-6421 ext. 5 and leave a message with your name, your child's name and ages.

Directions to Meetings

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

Autumn Fest at Kalamazoo College

For children and adolescents with autism and their families.

Saturday, November 12

1:00-4:30 PM

Schedule: 1:00-2:30 Swimming/Gym Play,
2:00-4:00 Arts and Crafts, 2:45-4:30 Movie
K-College students will serve as hosts, lifeguards,
and assist with activities.

**Please RSVP by November 11 to Bruce Mills at
269-337-7037 or bmills@kzoo.edu**



Fundraising **ASA's Night at**



BD's Mongolian Barbeque

Tuesday, December 6th, 2005
S. Westnedge, Portage

ASA Board Members will be your Guest
Chefs for the evening!

Dinner seating times are at 5, 7 or 9 PM.
Please RSVP to twood@asa-kal.org or
800-628-6421, ext 1.

Fundraising

ASA's Project Lifesaver has been chosen
to participate in a WKZO fundraiser

POTLUCK PALAPALOOZA!

ASA will receive the proceeds from one
day of WKZO's "A Holiday Dish to Pass"
cookbook sales.

Wednesday, December 14, 4:00-6:00PM

At Crossroads Expert Auto Service
7060 South Westnedge, Portage.

100% of the proceeds during this time will
benefit our chapter thanks to the generos-
ity of AM-590 WKZO listeners and radio
personality Lori Moore.

Cookbooks are \$5 each and all three edi-
tions will be available to purchase.

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. If you are not a member of the national organization, please send the following for membership in both the national organization and the local chapter :

Student – \$25.00
Individual – \$40.00
Family – \$50.00

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. Questions?? Contact Karrie Kemery at 324-1264 or kkemery@asa-kal.org.