



South Carolina Autism Society

Together We Can Solve The Puzzle

The purpose of the South Carolina Autism Society is to enable all children and adults in South Carolina who have autism spectrum disorders (ASDs) to reach their maximum potential.

2008 Annual SCAS Meeting and Conference Perspectives in Autism Friday, October 3 and Saturday, October 4, 2008 at the Columbia Conference Center

Don't miss the **SC Autism Society's Annual Meeting and Conference on October 3-4, 2008** at the **Columbia Conference Center**, 169 Laurelhurst Avenue, Columbia, SC. More information and registration at www.scautism.org. Scheduled presenters include:

Temple Grandin, a professor at Colorado State University who received her bachelor's degree in psychology from Franklin Pierce College, her master's degree in animal science from Arizona State University, and her PhD in animal science from the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign. Dr. Grandin is the author of several books, Emergence: Labeled Autistic; The Learning Style of People with Autism: An Autobiography; Thinking In Pictures: and Other Reports from My Life with Autism; Developing Talents : Careers for Individuals with Asperger Syndrome and High-Functioning Autism and The Unwritten Rules of Social Relationships: Decoding Social Mysteries Through the Unique Perspectives of Autism

Diane Twachtman-Cullen is a communication disorders specialist and licensed speech-language pathologist specializing in autism, Asperger Syndrome, and related conditions. She holds an MA in speech-language pathology, a Sixth Year Diploma in early childhood special education, and a Ph.D. in Special Education. Diane is the author of chapters on high-functioning autism and Asperger syndrome in the Division TEACCH series and also in Communication and Language Issues in Autism and Pervasive Developmental Disorder: A Transactional Developmental Perspective. She also has authored numerous books: A Passion to

Believe: Autism and the Facilitated Communication Phenomenon; Trevor Trevor, How To Be A Para Pro: A Comprehensive Training Manual For Paraprofessionals; and How Well Does Your IEP Measure Up?. Diane's column, "Straight Talk About Language and Communication," is a regular feature of The Autism-Asperger's Digest.

Rose Ivoannone is an assistant professor in the Division of Applied Research and Educational Support at USF. She received her Ph.D. in Educational Psychology from the University of Houston. She previously served as assistant director for the Center for Autism and Related Disabilities (CARD). Currently, she is the Director of a federally-funded behavior research center, the Prevent-Teach-Reinforce (PTR) Project. She has extensive experience working with individuals with autism and other developmental, learning and emotional disabilities

Laura Carpenter, assistant professor of pediatrics at MUSC, is a clinical psychologist and board-certified behavior analyst who provides clinical services including evaluations, behavior consultations, and training and is the coordinator of the psychology team. She continues as an avid researcher in autism spectrum disorders and is the author of several publications on autism.

Joshua Myers is a 20-year-old with autism. He graduated from Clover High with a regular diploma and earned his Eagle Scout the same year. Joshua is currently attending York Tech with a plans to transfer to Winthrop.

Registration Form is online and on page 10.

From the Desk of the President...

For more information about autism and the many activities of our organization, visit our website at www.scautism.org or call us in Columbia at 800-438-4790 or 803-750-6988.

We have seen several incidents on the national news, like a child with autism being removed from an airplane, asked to leave church or restaurants and being voted out of a classroom. Unfortunately we have recently also experienced this locally: a principal and vice-principal failing to use better judgment and a chief of police failing to show compassion. Children with autism spectrum disorders have been discriminated against or have been involved in situations where the adults, caregivers and officials should have responded better than they did.

These incidents hurt the entire autism community as we strive to create a society accepting and open to people with autism and other disabilities. These situations are clearly steps backward. Individuals with ASDs have the right to live in and participate in the general community to the extent they desire, but these incidents often make parents more nervous about community outings.

However, I am asking that in the face of these incidents, that families forge ahead. Keep pushing for inclusion and acceptance. I understand that no one wants to be involved in an experience like we have seen of recent, but the only way we can achieve acceptance is to continue to participate in the community.

Unfortunately, it falls to the families to not only struggle to find the appropriate services, but also to push and to advocate for that acceptance and inclusion throughout our community. After all, if we want individuals with ASDs to be able to fully participate in the community, they have to participate and learn about being in the community.

Families have to press forward. Yes, I understand it is "one more thing to do." If we are going to change society and attitudes, this is what it is going to take.

I have several suggestions where families can begin to make an impact. Just about every school has two groups that helps to make decisions and purchases for that school: the **Parent Teacher Organization/Association** and the **School Improvement Council**. By getting involved in these groups, the wider school population will begin to learn more about autism. They also control and determine how money is spent in the school and classrooms. Often the special needs classrooms are forgotten, so this is an opportunity to make our kids' needs known.

Families should take time to visit local police and fire departments. Let them meet your loved one with ASD. Perhaps go to a city council meeting and introduce them. Go meet your state Senator and Representative.

It is through the personal contacts and building relationships at all levels that true inclusion and acceptance begins.


Craig C. Stoxen
President and CEO

Mission Statement: **South Carolina Autism Society**

Our purpose is to enable all South Carolinians with autism spectrum disorders to reach their maximum potential.

SCAS is a chapter of the Autism Society of America, a United Way participant, and a Community Health Charities participant.

Mark Your Calendars and Start Planning for Strides 2009!

<i>Strides Event</i>	<i>Location</i>	<i>Saturday Dates</i>
Greenville	Greenville Technical College	April 25, 2009
Myrtle Beach	Grand Park	May 2, 2009
Columbia	Finlay Park	May 23, 2009

New Research

by Ruth K. Abramson, Ph.D.

Department of Neuropsychiatry and Behavioral Science, USC School of Medicine

Editor's note: Dr. Abramson is a Fellow of the American College of Medical Genetics and a regular contributor to the Update. She is part of the USC-Duke University team researching the genetics of autism spectrum disorders.

Summer is almost over and we are looking forward to the new school year and a very exciting SCAS annual meeting. I would like to share with you some research that I first heard at the International Meeting for Autism Research in May. The article looked for possible **genetic differences in social impairment** between families with one child with autism and families with two or more children with autism. The senior author on this research is John Constantino who developed the Social Responsiveness Scale (SRS) that measures the severity of social impairment and distinguishes autism from other psychiatric disorders. The article "**Familial aggregation of quantitative autistic traits in multiplex versus simplex autism,**" (*American Journal of Medical Genetics Part B*, July 2008) uses the SRS to see if unaffected brothers and sisters in families with one child with autism (**simplex**) are different than unaffected brothers and sisters in families with more than one child with autism (**multiplex**) in their degree of social impairment.

All of the families who participated had at least one male sibling who was not diagnosed with autism and who did not have an SRS score that indicated undiagnosed autism. Parents and teachers were asked to complete the SRS for 80 boys with autism and 95 unaffected boys in **simplex families**; and for 312 boys and 81 affected girls, and 40 unaffected boys and 45 unaffected girls in **multiplex families** to see if there were differences in social impairment for affected and unaffected children in simplex families versus multiplex families. In addition, parents completed an SRS on their spouse in 41 **simplex families** and 58 **multiplex families**.

There were no girls in the simplex families. When the SRS scores for all of the boys in the **simplex families** were examined, there were two groups of boys (a bimodal distribution). The group of unaffected sibs fell into a distinct low scoring group with a low SRS mean score of **35.7**. When the SRS scores for all of the boys in the **multiplex families** were examined, there was no distinct severity cutoff that distinguished unaffected boys from affected boys (a unimodal distribution). The mean score for unaffected boys was **48.8**. Teacher and parent reports were similar. Thus, there was a difference in social impairment in unaffected boys in

simplex and multiplex families. Some of the unaffected boys in **multiplex families** had significantly higher levels of social impairment as measured by the SRS, while this was not the case for unaffected boys in the **simplex families**.

When the SRS scores of girls in the **multiplex families** were examined, there were two groups of girls (a bimodal distribution). The unaffected girls fell into a group with low SRS scores with almost no overlap in scores with the group of affected girls. Teacher and parent reports were similar.

The parent-spouse completed SRS scores also showed significant differences. Wives in **simplex families** reported significantly lower SRS scores for their husbands than wives in **multiplex families**, indicating that husbands in **multiplex families** were thought to have higher levels of social impairment than husbands in **simplex families**.

Husbands in **simplex and multiplex families** reported about the same SRS scores for their wives, with no differences. The husband reported scores for wives in **simplex** (mean = **23.9**) and **multiplex families** (mean = **27**) were the same as wives scores for their husbands in **simplex families** (mean = **23.8**).

This study may indicate greater familial severity of social impairment in unaffected males in **multiplex families**, including unaffected siblings and unaffected fathers. This was not true for males (unaffected boys and their fathers) in **simplex families**, and for females (unaffected girls in **multiplex families** and mothers in both **multiplex and simplex families**), all of whom had low SRS scores. It may indicate that simplex autism families are different than multiplex autism families. It is my personal feeling that this may also indicate that some unaffected boys with higher levels of social impairment might benefit from interventions similar to their siblings with autism.

Dr. Harry Wright, Dr. Alicia Hall, Sarah Ravan and I would like to thank you for all of your previous support. We look forward to continuing our goal to better define both genetic and environmental causes of autism and to seek the best individual treatment for each child with autism. We will see you at the SCAS fall meeting. *Together we can make a difference.*

Autism: My Story

Even after two years, I still wake up some mornings and believe, just for a fraction of a second, that my family still lives in a world without autism. There was a time when those moments would cause me such enormous heart-break—having to relive the loss over and over again—it felt like a hole in the pit of my stomach being freshly ripped open every time my little fantasy would come to an all-too-abrupt end. These days, the pain is still there, but on the other side of the dream, there now lies peace and acceptance, and an ever increasing sense of hope—hope that my little boy and my family will make it through this.

Our little guy was three years old before anyone ever uttered the word “autism” to us. What a tremendous blow it was to hear that describing my child. Long before my husband and I started a family, I knew about autism. As a graduate student in psychology, I had learned about autism in several of my classes, through internship, and work experiences. I even had the opportunity to meet families of children with autism. Oh yes, I *knew* autism, and *my son certainly did not have it*.

When Jake was born, like all parents, Jason and I thought that he must be the most beautiful baby ever born, and despite the next six months of sleepless nights, unexplained crying jags, reflux, and one particularly terrifying hospital stay for RSV, we were helplessly in love with our little man. We couldn't have been happier. Jake certainly did not have the “easy” temperament that I had read about in school, but he was ours and was absolutely perfect in every way.

It wasn't until Jake was just over a year old that I started to worry a little about his language development. Like many parents, I can remember so clearly making up excuses for my “shy” little boy when in public he failed to return smiles and greetings. I still laugh when I remember all the little old ladies assuring me that “they never talk when you want them to.” So, our boy might have a little speech delay...it didn't seem that big of an obstacle. We would pursue therapy and things would be fine...right?

As I meet more parents of children with autism, it becomes more cliché to recount the doctors' initial reaction to my concerns. “He's a boy, just give him time. Soon he'll be talking so much that you'll wish he'd be this quiet!” Even when I bit the bullet and contacted BabyNet, our state's early intervention agency, Jake wasn't yet falling behind enough to warrant services.

As Jake reached his 2nd birthday, his language development began to lag further behind his friends. Whereas other kids were trampling headfirst into the “terrible twos,” Jake had never uttered the word “no” and really only spoke when pressed, and then would only produce simple one-word labels. About halfway into his third year with his expressive language scores now falling remarkably below age-level, he began to receive speech therapy provided by BabyNet, and seemed to be doing well with his therapist. The dreaded “A” word was still nowhere on our radar.

Jake continued to receive speech services through BabyNet until he turned three, and was then turned over to the school district for therapy. In the meantime, Jake's little sis, Mia, was born. Shortly after Mia's arrival, a (now) beloved speech therapist who had begun to work with Jake through the school district finally forced us to face the possibility that more might be going on with our little guy than a simple speech delay. I remember being furious with her! After all, I knew autism. How could my sweet, affectionate, bright little boy have it? I thought she must be crazy, but I set Jake up for an evaluation. I would come to appreciate this therapist's courage and insight.

Several months later, in the Developmental Pediatrician's office, I can still remember the blood leaving my face: my legs going numb. My cuddly little guy who was all smiles even throughout the evaluation was apparently not going to outgrow his speech delay. It assuredly was autism, and in the span of a few seconds, I was suddenly forced to reevaluate everything I thought I knew about myself, my family, and our future. Moreover, I was forced to reevaluate what I *thought* I knew about autism.

Logging many hours in front of the computer, trying to sort things out, and beginning to accept that Jake may actually have autism, I remember feeling utterly hopeless as to what path to take for him. After much of the shock had worn off, I made the decision to contact Family Connection so that I might learn from other parents' experiences. Only after getting connected with some families a little further down the road than us did I begin to feel like there might be some light at the end of the tunnel.

Although we couldn't hire an ABA consultant, the treatment as many parents encouraged us, I

decided with my background in psychology to try learning the principals of ABA and applying them with Jake. We enrolled him in a mild-language-delay preschool with the school district. Over the next year we watched our bright-eyed guy make steady progress. He was making strong connections to his teachers and to two college students we hired and trained to do ABA therapy. His language was improving, but still very much behind. Despite the promising gains he was making, we still couldn't get him the 30-40 hours of intensive therapy we knew he needed. Then, in September 2007, we received news that was to change everything.

Jake's number had come up on the PDD-Waiver wait list. Within a month's time, the Waiver was providing him funding for up to 33 hours a week of ABA with a qualified consultant. We decided to have Jake do full-time ABA during the week with Hopereach.

The progress Jake has made since starting full-time ABA is nothing less than a miracle. Jake is now five years old and after less than nine months of intensive therapy, he is able to speak in sentences, is beginning to read and do simple math, loves to play games



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Service Coordination News

Well summer camp time is winding down and kids are getting ready to go back to school. We are happy to say that we were able to get funds for several children to attend camp this summer thanks to the **Richland/Lexington Disabilities and Special Needs Board** and a special thanks to **Deborah Mann, BEAP Coordinator**, and her help in getting the summer service fund applications processed and approved so quickly for us! Several children attended **Camp Sunshine** along with camps held through the **Irmo Recreation Department, Trinity Baptist Church** in Cayce, and **Camp Burnt Gin**. We hope that all of the children had a fun and rewarding experience at camp this summer.

We are FINALLY opening a **satellite office in Charleston**. We are pleased to announce that **Nita Toler** is going to be our Lead Service Coordinator for the Charleston area SCAS office. Nita is coming to us from the local board and has 10 years of experience in service coordination. CASLS was gracious enough to allow us use of office space, so that is where you can find Nita. We will be accepting cases from **Charleston County** initially then expanding into **Dorchester** and **Berkeley Counties** as well. So, if you are interested in having SCAS as your service coordination provider and you are in Charleston County--we are accepting new cases effective **August 4**. **Contact me for more details.**

Also, we are expanding into **Anderson County** and accepting cases as of **September 1**. **Jennifer Neary**, currently an SC in our upstate office, will be handling the cases in Anderson County as she lives in the Clemson area. Those of you that don't know her--she is a dynamite Service Coordinator, and we are pleased that we can now offer our services to you in the Anderson area. Jennifer will continue to be based out of the Greenville SCAS office; however, we can now provide more service coordination as we have added another service coordination position in the Greenville area, bringing us to a total of 3 fulltime service coordinators in the upstate SCAS office.

All three SCAS offices have been offering a **monthly drop-in** for coffee and tea on the first Wednesday of every month from 9 am-11 am. We encourage families to take advantage of this time to come in, meet with other families and their SCs. This is a great opportunity to discuss services and offer any suggestions about service coordination and what we can do to improve the quality of our services. The turnout in the upstate office has been terrific for the monthly drop in; however, attendance has been scarce in Columbia and the coastal office, so please make an effort to attend, as it will give your service coordinator a chance to get to know you and your family better and to offer greater assistance to your loved ones.

Additionally, as Director of Service Coordination, I have a strong desire to improve the way we do things here at SCAS in an effort to really set our service coordination department apart from typical service coordination providers. In an effort to do that, I sent letters out to families that were served by each of our offices in May and asked them to participate in an Advisory Council for Service Coordination through SCAS. Participation wasn't as high as I had hoped. However, if any of you are receiving service coordination from any of our SCAS offices, and you would like to be on the **Advisory Council**, please contact me via phone or email (below). The Council will only meet a few times a year, so it's not a major time commitment. This presents an opportunity to have input in the services you receive and allows families and consumers to take ownership in what we do for them here at SCAS. We always welcome suggestions on how we can improve the job we do here and on how to improve the service delivery system. I'm hoping to have another Advisory Council meeting in the fall, *so let me know if you are interested*. I'd like to say a big **thank you** to those that attended the meetings and offered your time and input.

Kim Thomas
Director of Service Coordination
803-750-6988 or 800-438-4790 x 111
kim@scautism.org

Autism: My Story--Continued from page 4

with his chatty little sister, and still lights up a room the minute he walks through the door. Each day he achieves something new. Though he has to work hard for achievements that are effortless for other kids (including little sis), it doesn't detract from his success--if anything it makes the celebration much sweeter.

Jake is a gift to us, in every meaning of the word, and no matter what the future holds for him, the strides he continues to make today fill us with pride and hope.

Submitted by Julie Kellett

*We welcome stories of living with autism. Submit **Autism: My Story** to tim@scautism.org and will be used as space permits.*

Asperger's Syndrome

A Guide for Parents and Teachers, Part II

Jim Garvey M.A., LPC,LPC/S, NCCBT

Editor's note: This is a multi-part guide by Dr. Garvey, a Nationally Certified Cognitive-Behavioral Therapist at the Cognitive Behavioral Clinic, 920 Mt. Gilead Rd. Mt. Gilead Executive Offices Building C-Suite 3 Murrells Inlet, SC 29576 (843) 450-2918.

Impairment in Social Interaction:

Children with AS are extremely egocentric: they may not like physical contact, and they talk at people instead of to them. They show an inability to understand complex rules of social interactions. A child with AS does not understand jokes, irony, metaphors, idioms, and words with double meanings. Example: the word (park). If they only know it as "park the car," and mom says "we are going to the park," they may not know that's a place to play and/or have a picnic. The person with AS usually speaks in a monotone or stilted unnatural tone of voice. They are often referred to as "the little professor" because they speak so adult-like. They display a poor ability to initiate and sustain conversation unless the conversation centers on their interests.

It is important to stress that although some individuals with AS (often with maladaptive and disruptive behaviors in social settings) display behaviors that are often a result of their narrow and overly concrete understanding of social phenomena. Such is the result of the overwhelming puzzlement they experience when required to meet the demands of interpersonal life.

Suggestions:

- Protect the child from bullying and teasing.
- In higher age groups, educate the peers, describing his/her social deficits as a true disability. Encourage classmates to treat the person with HFA/AS with compassion.
- Allow the child with AS to demonstrate their proficient academic skills; this will help gain acceptance and admiration from their classmates.
- Provide opportunities for social interaction and facilitation of social relationships in fairly structured and supervised activities.
- Most children with AS want friends but simply do not know how to interact. Children with AS have to be taught social cues the same way other children learn how to play the piano. Teach the children what to say

and how to say it. Model two-way interactions and let them role-play. Social stories can be very helpful.

- Videotaping can be very helpful, (Dr. Bellini) suggests that you edit the tape, so the individual is only seeing a natural flow in conversation. Example: you may have 45 minutes of taping with prompting and support, and only have 5 minutes to show the individual of a natural conversation. Dr. Bellini has seen a great deal of success with this. He has said it's like "seeing is believing," if they see themselves talking naturally with another person--they believe it can happen. I have also used videotaping to have the individual critique themselves and practice how to say things more naturally. Some students have been amazed looking at themselves on how they sound to others.
- The availability of a communication specialist, with a special interest in pragmatics and social skills training. A communication specialist who can be available for individual and small group work and who can make a communication and social skills training intervention: (a) an integral part of all activities, (b) implemented at all times consistently, and (c) implemented across staff members, settings, and situations.
- Although they lack understanding in the emotions of others, children with AS can learn the appropriate ways to respond. Individuals with AS must learn social skills intellectually: *They lack social instinct and intuition.*
- Students with AS may benefit from a peer mentor program. The teacher should pick a sensitive classmate to assist the student with AS. The peer should sit next to them and help the individual stay on task, have lunch with them, look out for them at recess; and stimulate appropriate social conversation. Typical peers should be trained first in the skills that are needed to help facilitate appropriate interactions.

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Asperger's Syndrome: A Guide for Parents and Teachers, Part II

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- Children with AS tend to be reclusive; the teacher and peer mentor must foster involvement with others. Encourage socialization and try to limit isolated time. Both the teacher and the peer mentor can assist the student with AS.
- Participate in appropriate conversation. Appropriate conversation is the key, or they will only talk about what interests them. Always keep in mind that social contact is very stressful, so the individual may need some down-time.
- Children with AS usually have limited interests; this interest can be used to bridge the social conversation deficit. The teacher can also use the students' interest to help him/her gain respect from their fellow classmates. Example: If the student is an expert on dinosaurs let the student teach a segment on dinosaurs with a question and answer time built into the segment.
- Specific problem-solving strategies should be taught for handling the requirements of frequently occurring troublesome situations. Training is also necessary for recognizing situations that may be troublesome and for applying learned strategies in discrepant situations.
- Social awareness should be cultivated, focusing on the relevant aspects of given situations, and pointing out the irrelevances contain therein. Discrepancies between the individual's perceptions regarding the situation in question and another should be made explicit.

This guide will continue in the winter edition of the SCAS UPDATE.

Bravo Awards

Susan Stephens

Psychologist, Lexington 1

From assessments to behavioral supports and social skills instruction, Susan Stephens goes the extra mile for our kids with autism. Her positive and enthusiastic attitude makes working with her a pleasure.

Nominated by Kim McHugh

Patricia (Patsy) Sheldon

Special Ed./Pre-K Teacher
Aiken Elem. School

Patsy is excellent with the children and understanding with the parents. She participates in extra-curricular activities, like horse riding therapy, and attends almost all of the training programs held in Aiken. She even suggests parents try things, like diet changes, to help the kids. She believes in and suggest mainstreaming for all kids as much as possible. She has been a great teacher and advocate for a number of years.

Nominated by Dawn Thomas

Mrs. Shannon Cornelius

Kindergarten Teacher
Saluda River Academy for the Arts / Lexington
County School District 2

Mrs. Cornelius is kind, patient, accepting and loving, just to name a few. The first day we entered Mrs. Cornelius' classroom, we knew that Wesley would be successful. Her classroom was set up for all children to learn. Everything was labeled and organized and it was the structure that intrigued us as parents. She set her expectations high for all children, including Wesley. Our family is so honored to have her as our son's kindergarten teacher. With acceptance, inclusion and the desire to see change, Wesley will now be entering first grade. We would like to give this award to Mrs. Cornelius for all of her passion and her ability to make change.

Nominated by Margie Moore-Williamson

Fund-Raising News for 2009!

SCAS will have a new event in the fall of 2009: a **Chocolate Auction and Dessert Buffet** will feature chocolate creations to sample. This event will also offer chocolate delicacies for silent auction with other auction items to compliment, such as a selection of wines, baskets, glasses, desserts at local restaurants, etc. More details will follow as no definite date has been set.

Strides For Autism

Walks Across South Carolina

Thank you for a job very well done!

Strides For Autism–Walks Across South Carolina presented a final total of funds raised as **\$65,544.15!** A walk is a big undertaking--requiring countless volunteer hours. Your participation in our event was phenomenal! These were very successful inaugural walks! Funds raised from the Strides events will go directly to provide for family support programs, promote awareness, and support South Carolina-based research. All proceeds from these events will be used in South Carolina

We are already working on **Strides 2009** with a new a walk site at Grand Park in **Myrtle Beach** in May. Start planning your team for 2009 and get sponsors!

1ST Place	Team JMOC	\$ 3,779.00
2ND Place	Team Hope	\$ 3,449.54
3RD Place	Team Michael	\$ 2,451.00

Columbia Total	\$ 22,131.86
Greenville Total	\$ 26,865.11
Nonspecific Location Total	\$ 2,447.18

Sponsorships Total	\$ 12,750.00
Exhibitors Total	\$ 1,200.00
Teams Total	\$ 51,444.15

Strides-Team Totals

Team Name	\$ Raised
Both Walks, No Team Assigned	\$2,447.18
Columbia Walk	
Autie&Aspies Together	\$150.00
Bennett's Best	\$471.00
Carson's Crew	\$235.00
Cole Man	\$30.00
Drew's Dream Team	\$1,010.00
Emmanuel Lutheran Church Youth	\$50.00
Eric Exceeds!	\$160.00
Grand Strand Pioneers	\$10.00
Holland Avenue Baptist Church	\$315.00
Law Walkers	\$535.00
Learning Express	\$643.00
Learning Express Toy Store	\$102.00
Lisa Kemp	\$100.00
Lower Richland	\$100.00
Oak Pointe Pioneers	\$1,666.00
Queen Bees	\$115.00
Stoxen Striders	\$1,545.00
Sumter Stars	\$260.00
Team Bridgers	\$160.00
Team E.A.T.	\$1,260.00
Team JMOC	\$3,779.00
Team Jonas	\$1,415.00
Team Luke	\$125.00
Team Noah	\$75.00
Team Parker	\$280.00
Team Pease	\$200.00
Team Pine Grove	\$656.00
Team Rebel Yell	\$300.00
Team Roosevelt	\$95.00
Team Tate-Tate	\$360.00
Team Wal-Mart	\$100.00
Team Xavier	\$200.00
Team Zach	\$255.00
The SINGH Team	\$285.00
Vision Therapy Institute	\$275.00
Walking for Will	\$955.00
Weathersby's Winners	\$1,210.00
William's Walkabouts	\$25.00
Zoe Bazemore	\$725.00
Columbia/Cash No Team Assigned	\$1,899.86

Team Name	\$ Raised
Greenville Walk	
Andrew's Special Warriors	\$360.00
Ann Cady	\$50.00
Aspie Friends	\$30.00
Barbara Kirkland	\$339.00
Carter's Stars	\$1,278.00
Chris' Crew	\$375.00
Colby's Cruisers	\$885.00
GCSD Autism Services	\$405.00
Grace Guardian	\$520.00
Grady's Givers	\$2,325.00
Heath Family and Friends	\$276.00
Jack and Winston	\$335.00
Lauren's Pride	\$330.00
Mauldin High Striders	\$1,039.56
Palmetto Pride	\$1,345.00
Pelham Road Elementary All Stars	\$350.00
Pump it UP	\$820.00
Riley Gay/Michael Leiby	\$30.00
Ryan's Pacers	\$1,265.00
Ryan's Striders	\$340.00
Stephanie Cook	\$250.00
Supporters for Nicholas	\$100.00
Team Aaron	\$195.00
Team Alex	\$1,370.00
Team Ann Cady	\$100.00
Team Aspie Friends	\$332.00
Team Belschner	\$80.00
Team Christopher	\$1,590.00
Team Daniel	\$529.00
Team HOPE	\$3,449.54
Team Jake	\$1,343.01
Team LUCAS Network	\$1,233.00
Team Michael	\$2,451.00
Team Nealon	\$150.00
Team Sophia	\$440.00
Team TOGETHER	\$370.00
Team UPSTATE	\$85.00
TJ/Kevin Mokethis	\$100.00

Many THANKS to all our Sponsors and Participating Agencies for Strides For Autism:

Sponsors

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- Early Autism Project**
- GRACE Outdoor Advertising**
- Lexington Medical Center**
- Richland Co. Sheriffs Dept. & Sheriff Leon Lott**
- Speechworks, Inc.**
- UPS**

Participating Agencies

- The Arc
- Barry Wells, City of Columbia Parks & Rec. Superintendent
- Bojangles
- City of Columbia Police Dept., Sgt. Saunders
- Cocoa Cola Consolidated, Blythewood, SC
- Color Clay Café
- Crystal Linens
- The East Room
- EGO Salon
- Greenville Technical College
- Harley Davidson
- Jeff Rainwater, City of Columbia Parks & Rec. Superintendent
- Jessie Richards, Miss IRMO
- Krispy Kreme Donuts
- Learning Express Store
- The Midland Company
- Palmetto Computer Consulting
- Palmetto UKES Band
- Patti Mercer, Mrs. South Carolina
- Piggly Wiggly, Lugoff
- Pump It Up
- South Carolina Employment Security Commission
- Starbucks
- The State Newspaper
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- WLTX TV
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SCAS acknowledges the outstanding support and participation of our Honorary Chairpersons:

Greenville:	Carrie Davis of WSPA-TV & Senator David Thomas
Columbia:	Joe Pinner of WIS-TV

A Very Special Thanks To Donors Who Spoiled Our Awesome Moms!

- A Healing Touch Chiropractic Center
- Bakery & Party Place
- Beams by DiDi-DiDi Hendley Photography
- Candyland
- Columbia's--the Salon
- EGO Spa
- John Elliott Pro Hair Design
- Jeffers McGill
- Marc Mullinax
- Merle Norman Cosmetics
- Merry Maids
- Nail Tech
- The Place at Designer Center
- Salon Zazau
- Tony's Italian Bistro
- Melissa Weathersby
- The Wild Hare Sports Café
- Cindy & Jeff Yasmine

SCAS Announces...

Our newest Service Coordination location is located in Charleston County!

We welcome **Nita Toler, BS** as Lead Service Coordinator satellite office located in CASLS offices at 4 Carriage Lane, Suite 302, Charleston, SC 29407.

You can reach Nita through CASLS phone at 843-573-1905 or Fax 843-573-1926, or via cell at 843-870-1650.

Mark Your Calendars and Start Planning for Strides 2009!

<i>Strides Event</i>	<i>Location</i>	<i>Saturday Dates</i>
Greenville	Greenville Technical College	April 25, 2009
Myrtle Beach	Grand Park	May 2, 2009
Columbia	Finlay Park	May 23, 2009

2008 Perspectives in Autism Conference Registration Form

Name:					
Address 1:					
Address 2:					
City:		State:		Zip:	
Phone: with area code	<input type="checkbox"/> H		Your Email:		
	<input type="checkbox"/> W				

SCAS will send email confirmations only. (Make sure your email address is correct.)

	SCAS Members		NON Members		Total	1-Day Attendees
	1-Day	Both Days	1-Day	Both Days		<i>indicate which day:</i>
Friday/Saturday Conference						
Family Mbr or Ind w/Autism	\$ 70	\$ 100	\$ 100	\$ 130		<input type="checkbox"/> Friday <input type="checkbox"/> Saturday
Two Family Members	\$ 100	\$ 130	\$ 130	\$ 160		<input type="checkbox"/> Friday <input type="checkbox"/> Saturday
Full Time Student	\$ 70	\$ 100	\$ 100	\$ 130		<input type="checkbox"/> Friday <input type="checkbox"/> Saturday
Professional	\$ 100	\$ 130	\$ 130	\$ 160		<input type="checkbox"/> Friday <input type="checkbox"/> Saturday
3 or more of same group/each	\$ 90	\$ 120	\$ 120	\$ 150		<input type="checkbox"/> Friday <input type="checkbox"/> Saturday

Are you a member of the South Carolina Autism Society? Yes No

If not, join NOW and SAVE on your registration fees!

Basic Individual	\$ 10		Basic Family	\$ 20	
Supporting Individual	\$ 35		Supporting Family	\$ 50	
Total Membership Fees Included:				\$	

Enclosed is Check or Money Order OR Charge Visa / Mastercard / Discover / Am Exp

Name (on card):		Exp Date:		V-Code:	
Card Number:					
Signature:					

***Cancellation Fee of \$25 before 9/25 *No refunds after 9/25.** Please mail checks/money orders payable to **SCAS**, along with completed form to: **SC Autism Society, 806 12th Street, West Columbia, SC 29169-6142** OR register at www.scautism.org.

Purchase Orders accepted from state agencies and school districts The bookstore will be open during the entire conference. Stop by and pick up your speaker-recommended books! The silent auction will be located in the bookstore.

Hotel Information: Comfort Suites at Harbison Blvd. (At exit 103) 750 Saturn Parkway Columbia, SC 29212 (803) 407-4444 \$87/night (+tax) Tell them you're with SC Autism Society & Cola. Conf. Ctr.

Please return completed form to **SCAS, 806 12th Street, West Columbia, SC 29169-6142** or fax to **(803) 750-8121**. This form is also available on our website: www.scautism.org.

South Carolina Autism Society and the Zvejnieks Foundation
present the

6th Annual

Fun in the Fall Golf Tournament

Golden Hills Golf & Country Club
Highway 378 in Lexington, SC

Monday, October 27, 2008

11:00 a.m. Registration & Catered Lunch
11:30 a.m. Driving Rang Opens
12:30 p.m. Shotgun Start
5:00 p.m. Awards

Register **before October 3, 2008** and
SAVE: \$110/player or **\$440/foursome**

Register **October 3–October 27, 2008:**
\$125/player or **\$500/foursome**

Contests

- *Closest to the pin*
- *Long Drive - Men and Women*
- *Straightest Drive*
- *Drawings held during the event for more golf, dinner and entertainment!*

Extras

- *Tickets for Drawings: \$5.00*
- *Mulligans: \$5.00*
- *Eagle Package: \$25.00**
** includes 3 drawing tickets (\$15 value) and 4 mulligans (\$20 value)–for a \$10 savings!*

Your participation matters...

Autism is a developmental disability that interferes with the development of the brain in reasoning, social interaction and communication skills. With 1.5 million Americans (over 30,000 in SC) having been diagnosed with autism, it is one of the three most common developmental disabilities--more common than Down Syndrome. Proceeds from this tournament will be used to enhance programs for families and individuals with autism spectrum disorders.



Golf Sponsorships

Includes specific benefits for each level below and recognition in quarterly newsletter and on www.scautism.org.

Platinum <i>Includes 2 four-member teams, signage at event</i>	\$3,000	Gold <i>Includes 2 four-member teams, recognition at event</i>	\$2,000
Silver <i>Includes 1 four-member team, and recognition at event</i>	\$1,500	Bronze <i>Includes 2 players, and recognition at event</i>	\$ 750

Non-Golf Sponsorship Opportunities

Includes sign at hole/cart and recognition in quarterly newsletter and on www.scautism.org.

Non-Golf Sponsorship Opportunities

Closest to the Pin	\$400	Cart Sponsor	\$300
Corporate Hole	\$100	Family Hole	\$ 50

To have signage at the event, sponsorship should be received in our office by *Monday, October 13, 2008.*

Please mail checks/money orders payable to **SCAS**, along with completed sponsorship and/or player/team registration form to: **SC Autism Society, 806 12th Street, West Columbia, SC 29169-6142.**

Sponsorship or player/team registration forms can be printed/submitted via www.scautism.org or call SCAS 803-750-6988 toll-free: 800-438-4790 Fax: 803-750-8121 or e-mail: scas@scautism.org for registration and other information.

2008-09 Workshops Registration Form (for workshop details, visit www.scautism.org)

Name:

Address 1:

Address 2:

City:

State:

Zip:

Phone:
with area code

H

W

Your Email:

SCAS will send email confirmations only. (Make sure your email address is correct.)

Session Name	Location	Date	No Refunds after date **	Fee includes Lunch:	Registration Fee:
Behavior Analysis for Lasting Change	Columbia Conf. Ctr.	09/03 <i>Reg 8 am 9am-4pm</i>	08/20	yes	\$ 65
Basic Teaching Strategies & Support for Students with ASD	SCAS-HQ	Tuesdays: 09/09-10/14 4-7pm	8/26	no	\$ 20
Becoming a Parent Trainer with Visual & Environmental Supports	SCAS-HQ	Mondays: 09/15-10/20 3:30-5:30 pm <i>Make&Takes: Jan-June</i>	9/01	no	\$ 20*
Autism 101	SCAS-HQ	09/17 6-8pm	na	no	No-Charge
Autism 101	SCAS-HQ	01/14/09 6-8pm	na	no	No-Charge
Navigating the Social World	Columbia Conf. Ctr.	02/20/09 <i>Reg 8 am 9am-4pm</i>	02/06	yes	\$ 70
Autism 101	SCAS-HQ	04/22/09 6-8pm	na	no	No-Charge

* I will commit to helping train others-waive my \$20 Registration fee **for the Parent Trainer workshop (only)**.

Are you a member of the South Carolina Autism Society? Yes No

Are you a Parent of a child with autism? Yes No

Enclosed is Check or Money Order OR Charge Visa / Mastercard / Discover / Am Exp

Name (on card):

Exp Date:

V-Code:

Card Number:

Signature:

***Cancellation Fee of \$20 will apply (if cancelled before "no refunds" date above).**

Please mail checks/money orders payable to **SCAS**, along with completed form to: **SC Autism Society, 806 12th Street, West Columbia, SC 29169-6142** OR register at www.scautism.org.

SCAS's needs-based Workshop Scholarship Application is available at www.scautism.org for parents only.

April-June

Donors

Meadwestvaco, Matching Gift Program-Denise Chastain
 Fannie Mae, Matching Donation from Ben Dorman
 M/M John M. Edwards Jr., Quality of Life
 M/M Lowell Person
 Ms. Catharine Whisenhunt
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 Ms. Michelle Durden, Caring, Inc.
 Women of St. Michaels

Expansion Campaign

Mr. John Schadegg	Ms. Aixa Rodriguez-Mariana
Mr. Clint Lucas, Showa Denko Carbon, Inc.	Ms. Livy Fogle, Ph.D.
Ms. Liu Gordon	Ms. Carrie B. Spann
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M/M Kenneth Minehart	Mrs. Becky Hughes
M/M Jason Snurr	M/M Robert Puette
Ms. Ann Kingsolver	Mrs. Jackie Robey
Ms. Alice Davis	M/M Victor Rodriguez-Mariana

2008 Bowling Event

M/M David Harris	M/M James Maczko
M/M Daniel Taylor	Cayce Café
M/M John Mitchell	Ms. Joan Frierson
Ms. Felicia Schlau	Ms. Jean Latimer
M/M Decania Barr	M/M Michael Penn
M/M Clifton Simmons	M/M Jack Royal
M/M Clifton Simmons	Ms. Sandra Hamilton
M/M Kenny Rowe	Ms. Amanda Amick
M/M David Schneider	M/M Ed Elbrecht
Ms. Christa Wall	Mr. Wade Hook, Holland Avenue Baptist Church
M/M Thomas Donaldson	Faith Lutheran Church
Ms. Joye Drafts	Youth Account
M/M Carl Boozer	M/M Micholas Matthews
M/M Edward Adams	

2008 Beach Golf

Mr. Robert Harte	Mr. Craig C. Stoxen
M/M John Morelli	Ms. Yoshinori Sano
M/M Thomas Galardi	Ms. Amy Gary
Mrs. Gene Grace Holbert	Mr. Randy Woodson
M/M Dick Ward	M/M Nicholas Giordano
Anderson & Anderson, LLP	Mr. Jay Cole, Applied Behavioral Services
Florian Solar Products, LLC	M/M Eric Pope
Golf Cash Account	Ms. Denise Garvey
Ms. Donna Copley	Ms. Josephine Nicolò
Mr. James Putnam	Ms. Ronda Wilson, Georgetown Hospital System
Mr. Tim Brown	Mr. William McLain
Ms. Sara Pope	Miracle Golf Concepts Int, LLC
Ms. Donna Copley	
Mr. Robert Harte	
Ms. Aixa Rodriguez-Mariana	

Memorials

In Honor of ...

Bill & Ann Bishop's 50th Anniversary by Mr. Craig C. Stoxen
Daniel Harrington by Grama, Papa Chuck, Aunt Laura, Uncle Alvin
Daniel Harrington's Birthday by Ms. Rosemary Deuser
Employee Donations for Jeans Days April 2008 by Lowcountry Medical Group, LLC
SCAS Board Luncheon by Mrs. Gene Grace Holbert

In Memory of ...

Betsy Summers by M/M Luther Wilson
William Derrick by Ms. DiDi Hendley, SCAS Derrick Equipment, Inc.
 Martin Engineering, Inc.
 Ms. Rita Decarlis
 Information Services
 Ms. Elizabeth Gable

Please support your local United Way.



Allocations & designations are an important part of the SCAS budget.

Thank you for giving.

Memberships

New Benefactor

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 Ms. Michelle Durden
 Ms. Jodi Hortman
 Ms. A V Hall
 Mr. Chris Landrum
 Ms. Gloria Howell
 Ms. Bonita Lee
 Ms. Tawanda Baitmon.

Basic

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 Ms. Vernon Jackman
 Dr. William Taylor
 Mr. Chuck Hanchey
 Ms. Adrienne Kopsak
 Ms. Mary Cady
 Ms. Susan Cloud
 Ms. Kimberly Thompson
 Ms. Madison Williams
 Mr. Trey Miley
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 Ms. Jodi Unsinger
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Supporting

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Basic

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 M/M Bobby Edwards
 M/M Ernest Kastner, Jr.
 Ms. Cynthia Caldwell
 Ms. Melissa Metts
 Dr. Richard Simensen
 M/M Timothy Johnson
 Ms. Amanda Alford

Congratulations to Dr. Mitchell Yell-recipient of the Yamaha Golf Cart!



2008 Board of Directors

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Denise Chastain *, Goose Creek

Susan Kastner *, Mauldin

Sarah Pope *, Myrtle Beach

Cheryl Bauerle *, Myrtle Beach

Erik Norton, Columbia

Melissa Metts, Irmo

* denotes parent of child with an ASD.

+ denotes relative of person with an ASD.

Join SCAS Today!

If you're not a member of SCAS, remember that becoming one will save you money on the SCAS Conference in October. Contact SCAS at 803-750-6988 or 800-438-4790 or visit www.scautism.org.

BASIC Individual - \$10 Family - \$20

State conference discount including invitation to VIP Membership reception; Receive THE UPDATE, state chapter quarterly newsletter; free shipment of SCAS products purchased by phone; personalized membership card; SCAS membership decal; voting privileges during annual meeting (Family level gets two votes).

FULL-TIME STUDENT Individual - \$10

Basic (individual) benefits

SUPPORTING Individual - \$35 Family - \$50

Basic benefits plus: 10% discount on all SCAS promotional items (travel mugs, t-shirts, etc.); exclusive limited edition member coffee mug (Family level receives two mugs).

BENEFACTOR Individual - \$75 Family - \$100

Basic & Supporting benefits plus: Exclusive "Solving the Puzzle" ribbon lapel pin (Family level receives two pins); Personal invitation to special events.

SCAS Board Meetings

Saturday, August 16, 2008

10:00 am – 2:00 pm

at SCAS

Friday, October 3, 2008

4:00 pm – 6:00 pm

at Columbia Conference Center

SCAS Programs

For more information, visit our website.

- Family Support/Information and Referral
- Annual conference, workshops for parents and professionals
- Preparing for Puberty and Beyond: Help for Parents
- Service Coordination for DDSN consumers with autism
- Self Directed Support Corporations SDSCs (aka microboards)
- Parent-School Partnership-parent mentors assist families
- Providing autism books & DVDs to libraries
- SCAS advocates for quality services for children and adults with ASDs as individuals and statewide.

www.scautism.org

The UPDATE is published four times a year by the South Carolina Autism Society, one of more than 200 nonprofit chapters of the Autism Society of America (ASA) and the only ASA chapter in South Carolina. SCAS is a United Way participant and a Community Health Charities participant. Guest articles are welcome for possible publication. Information and points of view contained in The UPDATE are not necessarily endorsed by or held by SCAS, its directors or staff, but may be presented to keep readers informed. Visit our website for a current calendar of events: including training opportunities, meetings, events, and more!

South Carolina Autism Society

SCAS Staff	* denotes parent of child with an ASD. + denotes relative of person with an ASD.	Ext.
Craig C. Stoxen	President & CEO	106
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Nita Toler	Lead Service Coordinator (Charleston)	
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Deborah Chaddock +	Program Assistant, PSP	103
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Amanda Alford *	Kim McHugh *	Dawn Thomas *
A.J. Dearbury *	Margie Moore-Williamson *	Deandrea Woolridge *
Brenda Dease *	Tammy Ruiz *	
Denise Garvey *	Jamie Sampson *	

<p style="text-align: center;">SC Autism Society's Main Office (HQ) 806 12th Street West Columbia, SC 29169 803-750-6988 • 800-438-4790 • (extensions above) Fax: 803-750-8121 • e-mail: scas@scautism.org</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">SCAS Greenville/Spartanburg Area Office Suite 130 - Century at Keith 5 Century Drive, Greenville, SC 29607-1578 Office: 864-473-7023 • Fax: 864-241-8667</p>
<p style="text-align: center;">SCAS Horry County Office 3254 Holmestown Road, Unit A Myrtle Beach, SC 29588 Office: 843-650-0129 • Fax: 843-650-2105</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">NEW! SCAS Charleston County Office 4 Carriage Lane, Suite 302, Charleston, SC 29407 843-573-1905 (CASLS) • Fax 843-573-1926 Cell 843-870-1650</p>

SCAS Calendar of Events

- September 3:** **Behavior Analysis for Lasting Change** by *Dr. Colleen Cornwall* at Columbia Conference Center.
- September 9:** **Basic Teaching Strategies & Support for Students with ASD** by *Alisia Carey* at SCAS-HQ on Tuesdays through October.
- September 15:** **Becoming a Parent Trainer with Visual & Environmental Supports** by *Dr. Carol Page* at SCAS-HQ on Mondays through October and Parent-Led Make & Take sessions January - June, 2009.
- September 17:** **Autism 101** by *Melissa Metts* at SCAS-HQ.
- October 3:** Speakers at our **2008 Annual Conference:** *Dr. Rose Iovannone*, and *Dr. Diane Twachtman-Cullen* at the Columbia Conference Center, 169 Laurelhurst Av. in Columbia.
- October 4:** *Dr. Temple Grandin* will be the keynote speaker at our **2008 Annual Conference**. Speakers also include *Joshua Myers* and *Dr. Laura Carpenter*.
- October 27:** **Fun in the Fall Golf Tournament** at Golden Hills in Lexington, SC
- TBA **Building Better IEPs through a Collaborative Team Process** with *Tim Conroy* (sessions will be scheduled during the 2008-09 school year).

2009

- January 14:** **Autism 101** by *Melissa Metts* at SCAS-HQ.
- February 20:** **Navigating the Social World** with *Dr. Jeanette McAfee* at Columbia Conference Ctr.
- April 22:** **Autism 101** by *Melissa Metts* at SCAS-HQ.

First Wednesday of each month SCAS Service Coordinators offer **coffee/tea chat time** with our families and consumers from 9 to 11 am at each of our offices.

Asperger's support group meets at SCAS HQ on the last Sunday of each month from 4:00-5:30.

Other **support groups** meet throughout the state--information is available--contact SCAS Information and Referral for more information.

Volume 36
Issue Three
August, 2008

If you would like to help us reduce costs and read *The UPDATE* online, please email SCAS@scautism.org with **KEEP MY SCAS NEWSLETTER** in the subject line. We will use your email address to alert you when you can view the newsletter on our website.

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South Carolina Autism Society
Together We Can Solve The Puzzle

