



In This Issue

- Social/Goodwill Chairman letter
- Membership Renewal
- DSAA Job Opening
- DSAA Board of Directors
- Brag Section Birthdays
- Upcoming Events
- Specs4Us
- Cuisine & Conversation YAC
- Self-Advocate Position
- NDSC 2010
- Publishing Information
- How to Contact Us
- Advisory Board

Mission Statement

Down Syndrome Association of Acadiana will provide families with a support network, sharing experiences from pre-birth of a child through the stages of education and adult living within The community. Support resources include newsletters, new-parent information packets, parent-match services, community education, and special events.

From our Social / Goodwill Chairman

“Come rain or shine!” True for life and our kids, every which way you look at it! And “Come rain or shine” it’s true for what DSAA sets out to accomplish for you and your family! It was also true for our 6th annual picnic at Catfish Heaven, Saturday, June 5th. Friends, family, food, fishing, fun-jumping, swimming, music, laughter, and most importantly - love - danced around during our great time together for this year’s picnic whether or not ugly thunderstorms threatened our time together. We are sending out our appreciation to several generous businesses and individuals who contributed to make it all possible: Acadiana Bottling Company for drinks, Albertsons for water and cookies, DJ Smiley for great music, Borden’s ice cream – Danny Menard, Mark Quinn and Men’s Civitan Club, Roy Brown for providing lunch, Meche’s Donuts and Super One Foods and also very importantly our picnic committee!

On June 14th, DSAA’s Summer Art Camp filled the Children’s Museum with art, music, and puppeteer-storytelling sessions by local artists and professionals - Henry Hample, Dana Manly, Worley Firmin and Lori Nunez. Individuals with Down syndrome from ages six and up were invited to enjoy in this enriching opportunity! Making memories with friends and family and experiencing success always helps our summer morale!

“Come Rain or Shine”, October 30, 2010 – AKA 10-30-30! – will be this year’s DSAA’s Buddy Walk at Parc International! YES, you make the difference! Sponsors and volunteers are key in making this incredible event more successful every year! Our hope this year is everyone participates in the walk! Come “Rain or Shine,” those who come together with DSAA’s very special individuals and families on 10-10-30 will walk away filled with love and smiles. Umbrella or no umbrella!

Shauna Escott

Membership Renewal Time

Your annual membership provides the organization with the funds to continually offer educational programs, informative bi-monthly meetings, parent support and numerous fun activities for our children and their families. Please support your organization by sending in your membership renewal. We want to continue to offer our active membership the very best!!

DSAA Job Opening

Your annual membership provides the organization with the funds to continually offer educational programs, informative bi-monthly meetings, parent support and numerous fun activities for our children and their families. Please support your organization by sending in your membership renewal. We want to continue to offer our active membership the very best!!

“If you do not hope, you will not find what is beyond your hopes.”

St. Clement of Alexandria

Board Officers

- Marlene Venable.....President
- Laura Trahan.....Vice President
- Trisha Darbonne.....Secretary
- Julie Romero.....Treasurer

Board Members

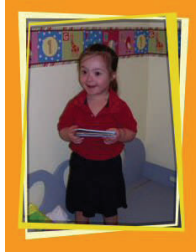
- Shauna Escott.....Social/Goodwill Chair
- Loretta Girouard.....Membership
- Molly Guidry.....Media Relations
- Pam McFarland.....Meeting Coordinator
- Charmaine Welborn.....Young Adult Committee
- Anita Ford.....Founder

Brag Section



Peter Escott learned how to ride a two wheel bicycle in April at Lose The Training Wheels Camp in Baton Rouge! Go Pete!
Peter also made his first communion May 1st. Big boy!

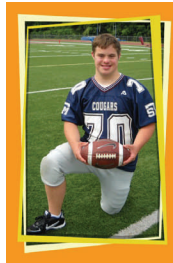
Ellie Grace Guidry (3 years old) graduated from her Montessori Nursery School on 5/18/10. She started pre-K at S. J. Montgomery School.



Peyton Anslam, 7 yrs. old, attended 1st grade at Berwick Elementary where he made the Honor Roll the 3rd & 4th grading periods with a 3.50 and 3.75 GPA. Peyton's hard work and dedication paid off!!! GREAT JOB!!!!!! Keep up the hard work.

He also competed in the Donna Adams Memorial 2010 Special Olympics at Franklin Senior High this spring where he received a first place ribbon in the 25 meter run and tennis ball throw competitions.

Elliott Venable participated in the St. Thomas More Spring Football Scrimmage held in May and is so excited to be on the 2010 fall football roster as #70 at wide receiver. GO ELLIOTT!! GO COUGARS!!



Lindsey Menard received honor roll on her report card this 6 weeks. and also she is going to be a bridesmaid in her aunt wedding she looks so beautiful in her dress, Also Lindsey just had a birthday she is now 20.cant believe how times go by.

Buddy Walk Volunteers Needed

Our 6th Annual Buddy Walk is right around the corner. The Buddy Walk Committee is well on the way planning this spectacular event for our special loved ones and families. This special event requires many minds, hearts, and hands; thus, the request is now being made for BW volunteers, the feet and hands that we need to shine. The more people helping, the easier it is on everyone and the more success we will have. Please consider volunteering your time and talents. Our contact information is volunteersbuddy-walk@dsaa.info or can call our phone line at 234-3109.

Birthday Greetings !!

January

Joshua Boudreaux
Matthew Molaison
Melanie Jankower
Brooke Hebert
Peyton Anslam
Tony Piontek
Camille Kate Domec
Christian Menard
Matthew Camel
Elizabeth Brown
Michaela Hebert
Dylan Henry

February

Lindsay Chautin
Asia Plowden
Eddie Armond
Alexandra Smith
Mason Sonnier
India Jade Broussard

March

Dave McAllister
Jennifer Miller
Ross Villagomez
Ross Trahan
Grant Trahan
Mark Caswell
Kyle Sonnier
Jasimine Benoit
Sydnie Harmon
Jon Michael Benoit
Elijah Francis Zerangue
Matthew Stevenson

April

Amy Guidry
Benjamin Buroker
April Sere`
Jeffery Brown
Matthew Lederfine
Brittany Plaunty
Braden Darbonne
Aaron Rhodes
Jacob Comeaux
Ellie Grace Guidry

Upcoming Events

June 14

Fun Summer Camp
9:00 am—2:00 pm
Children's Museum
201 E. Congress, Lafayette, LA

July 7

Cuisine & Conversation
Jason's Deli on Johnston Street
11:00 am

July 24

YAC Bowling

August 3

Support & Education Meeting
Dr. Janna K Flint, Pediatric Endocrinologist
Women's Foundation @ Women and Childrens
6:00 pm till 8:00 pm

August 4

Cuisine & Converstiaon
Jason's Deli on Johnston Street
11:00 am



Specs4US

SPECS4US, Superior Precision Eyewear for Children who are Special, introduces a new concept in eyewear for children with Down Syndrome that eliminates the problems regular eyeglasses never could. The mission is simple: To improve the sight and quality of life for children with DS by providing custom frames that fit your children's unique needs. The frame-line entitled Erin's World provides frames that are custom designed to fit the unique facial features of your children with shortened temples (arms), extra wide frame fronts and a lowered bridge. The frames are made from titanium and memory flex that creates a flexible bridge and temples that can spring out 180 degrees to keep up with your children's active lifestyles. These special features will allow your children to explore the world with clear vision, as they will no longer be hindered from the problems associated with ordinary frames. Created and founded by an optician and fellow DS mother, Maria Dellapina, SPECS4US frames are available in a variety of sizes and colors made especially for your children. Please feel free to email info@specs4us.com with names of trusted local doctors and optical shops so we can contact them in regards to carrying Erin's World frames in your area, which will enable you to use vision coverage if needed. To order frames directly or request more information visit SPECS4US.com. or Call us at 1-800-586-1885.



Cuisine and Conversation

Cuisine and Conversation will resume in September. A notice will be sent out in August with the time and place for that meeting.



Young Adult Committee

The YAC will meet for Bowling on July 24th. Watch your mail for a reminder. You can contact Mrs. Charmaine for more details.

Self-Advocate Position Available

DSAA looking to fill/renew our Self Advocate position on our Advisory Board to fill a 2 year term. Basic skills needed to be a Self Advocate leader include voicing an opinion and helping to choose the direction of the future of DSAA. The Self Advocate gives us the opportunity to hear people with Down syndrome on their ideas of how this organization can advocate better for their peers and opportunities to involve more people with developmental disabilities to create an inclusive diverse community. If you or your adult child with DS would be interested in this position please contact DSAA for an application.

NDSC Convention 2010

Magic Moments happen when the world of Down syndrome gathers.

Join us in Orlando for the 38th Annual National Down Syndrome Congress Convention and find three days that start with an array of in-depth Pre-Conference Sessions and blossom into the General Convention, all packed with the very best information available on virtually every aspect of Down syndrome.

Come with your dreams and discover they can become reality. Come with anticipation and find yourself fulfilled, supported and included. Come with your family and you will be immersed in magic moments. There's the world's largest gathering of teens and adults with Down syndrome laced with workshops, panel discussions and outrageous fun. And for brothers and sisters, a conference where new friends are made and experiences shared. All is topped off with the excitement of our opening reception and awards banquet where you can end the evening dancing for pure joy.

Side by side with the general convention is the NDSC Youth & Adults (Y & A) Conference conducted by and for teens and adults with Down syndrome. It's the Convention's fastest growing dimension, specially designed, presented and attended by self advocates. The conference features workshops, panel discussions and presentations on subjects ranging from healthy eating to relationships. It is fun, enriching and empowering — with more than 100 volunteers to lend support.

The NDSC Brothers & Sisters (B & S) Conference is a fun-filled weekend where siblings of individuals with Down syndrome can share ideas, experiences and make new friends. It is a place to learn, be inspired and grow, to be enlightened and encouraged, and to ask tough questions in a supportive environment.

The 2010 NDSC Convention will be held in legendary Walt Disney World® and within easy reach of all central Florida has to offer. The reason to come this summer, however, is an absolutely unique concentration of the best information available on Down syndrome, anywhere — three days, packed with information, answers and solutions, offered by the experts through inspiring keynote presentations and dozens of tightly focused workshops. Simply, there's just no end to the magic moments you'll find in central Florida. Join us for the 38th Annual National Down Syndrome Congress Convention, Friday, July 16 – Sunday, July 18, 2010.

For more information go to www.ndsccenter.org.

dsaa

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NEWSLETTER COMMITTEE

Marlene Venable Julie Romero

PUBLISHING INFORMATION

The DSAA Voice is published 4 times a year. This is a service of the DSAA, a non-profit organization whose mission is to provide information, support and resources to individuals with Down syndrome, their families and their communities.

Registered members will receive our newsletter quarterly. Associate members will receive it for a three issue trial basis.

Submissions to the newsletter are due by the 12th of even numbered months. Ideas, articles, and pictures for the newsletter should be sent to the newsletter chair on our web site.

DSAA does not endorse or recommend any therapy, institution, treatment, etc. and does not promote any particular political, educational or religious view. Inclusion of an item does not necessarily imply promotion or approval of its sponsors. The editor reserves the right to make corrections as appropriate and in accord with established editorial practice in material submitted for publication.



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