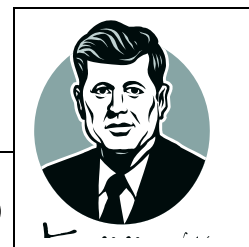


Down Syndrome Development Council

FORUM-May 2008 volume 20



Don't ask what your DDC can do for you....ask what can I do for my DDC

Please contact us at:

DDC
PO Box 906
Mundelein, IL
60060

Our Meeting Place:
Community Protestant Church
418N. Prairie
Mundelein,
Second Thursday of the month.

Our Mission:
To promote a greater acceptance and understanding of Down syndrome, by enlightening the broader community to recognize the individuality, uniqueness and capabilities of individuals with DS.

**2008 ANNUAL MEETING –
Thursday, May 8TH 7:00 PM**

At the Community Protestant Church, 418 N. Prairie Ave., Mundelein.

We are coming quickly on the second Thursday of May. This means that it is once again time to vote in the Board Members for the upcoming year. If you are looking to increase your involvement or desire a title, or just like a challenge, consider nominating yourself for a position on the Board. Just a reminder, only votes of members who are present at this meeting. As usual, there will be babysitter provided by the DDC...we ask that you attend the meeting instead of catching that movie you want to see. We also encourage your participation in the regular monthly meetings.

Saturday May 10th, 2008

Mother's Day Weekend



It's a cocktail party, it's a trunk show, and it's a fundraiser!

This bash, hosted by the Collins', is for **adults only** (please) so get a sitter and come join the fun. Besides the cocktails, great company, and fabulous treats we will also have *Mommy Needs a Cocktail* merchandise available and 10% of the proceeds will go to DDC. Perhaps *Mommy Needs a Vacation*, or a *Nanny*, or a *Latte*, or a glass of wine, or *Chocolate*, or for *Daddy to do the dishes*... well I know *this Mommy Needs it All* and if *Mommy ain't happy, ain't nobody happy!* Please check future newsletters for more information.

If you have any questions or to RSVP please contact RaeAnn Collins at 847.265.8482 or rjohncol@comcast.net

UPCOMING DDC EVENTS:

5/ 8 Monthly meeting: DDC Board Elections, 7pm

5/10 Cocktail party, 7pm

5/15 Thurs. playgroup, 5:30-7:30pm

6/21 Baby Social, 9:30am

6/28 Movie Lovers, 9:30am "Wall-E"

8/3 Family Picnic

For a current listing of the books available in the DDC

library, go to our website:

www.TheDDC.org Our library is located at the Center for Independent Living. If you are interested in checking out a book please call Pam at 949-4440, ext.15. The office is open Monday-Friday, 8:30-5:00pm.

Want to smile? Simply go to www.youtube.com/watch?v=t_0K-gPlyb0 and then send it on to the rest of the world. Let's see what will happen.

A look into your future!



DDC COCKTAIL PARTY

**Saturday May 10, 2008 at 7:00 PM to ?
At Patrick and RaeAnn Collins' House**

Moms and Dads come enjoy a pre-Mother's Day drink or drinks, some non-fattening appetizers and adult conversation (please no referring to the bathroom as potty). So line up that babysitter (adults only please) and enjoy a "date night" early in the month. **Please RSVP to RaeAnn at 847.265.8482.**

DDC New Baby Social

Saturday June 21 from 9:30-11:30am

These socials are intended to give parents with new babies a chance to meet and learn more about our children with DS. Our next Baby Social will be at the Fremont Public Library
1170 Midlothian Road, between Winchester and Route 176

Please RSVP to Jennifer Jenkins (847/970-6797 OR only_connect@msn.com)

2008 SUMMER PICNIC

**Sunday, August 3, 2008
At Shelter A in the Half Day Forest Preserve**

What activity is better to do on a nice summer day...stuff yourself with delicious hamburgers, hotdogs, salads and sweets, re-capture your youth by playing games and soaking up the sun; fishing for the "one that got away"; catching up on members' summer happenings and of course swatting that fly or other pesky bugs. Plus think of all the fun that our children will have.

2008 BUDDY WALK

**Sunday September 21, 2008
At Lambs Farm in Libertyville**

Bring the family and friends to the key DDC fundraising event of 2008. However, the Buddy Walk is more than a fundraiser. It is a time to show how super our special-needs children, friends, and co-workers are and a time to celebrate their accomplishments. The Buddy Walk is also an opportunity to join other organizations in a National Down syndrome Awareness Event. By informing and educating the public, we are helping to provide for the future of our children.

2008 CHRISTMAS PARTY

**Sunday, December 14, 2008
At the Community Protestant Church, 418 N. Prairie Ave., Mundelein.**

Join us for a holiday celebration that is sure to bring smiles to those special little ones and even those special big ones. Santa Claus makes an early appearance with gifts for all children. We get to spend some time catching up on the past year milestones. As an added bonus, you get an early start on the holiday 5 or more pounds, which we vow to lose by the end of January.

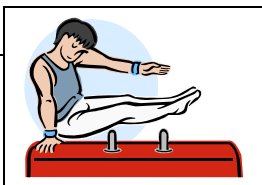


Movie Lover's Club

The families of the DDC are invited to a free showing of the new Disney movie "Wall-E" Saturday June 28th at 9:30 am (doors open at 9:15am) at the Liberty Theatre in downtown Libertyville on Milwaukee Ave. The DDC covers the cost of admission, popcorn and soda pop are available to purchase. This is a private showing just for us; the lights are up a little and the children are free to move around, make noise and have a good time. We encourage the kids to sit together and make new friends.

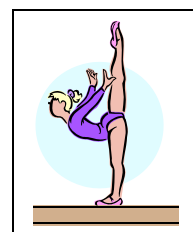
For more info. Call Rae Ann Collins at 847-265-8482.

DDC needs your photos. The DDC is putting together another brochure and we need pictures of your kids, all ages doing all things. These brochures are handed out at the Buddy Walk, DDC events, and by other Ds organizations to promote awareness about Down syndrome and the DDC. If you have a good quality picture of your child that you would like to submit for consideration in the new DDC brochure please send it labeled with child's age and name electronically to RaeAnn Collins at rjohncol@comcast.net and put DDC photo in the subject. Please note that by sending a photo to DDC you are giving us permission to use the image in DDC publications. If you have any questions please contact RaeAnn via email or phone 847.265.8482. Can't wait to see all those smiling faces.



Superstar Gymnastics invites you & your athletes to take part in an amazing 4 night/5 day inclusive gymnastics camp for individuals with special needs. Superstar Gymnastics Camp offers athletes with special needs the structured and normalized experience possible. Chicagoland's top high school coaches, nationally ranked college gymnasts, former national standouts & more, come together to coach & mentor athletes for a week. The 1:1 peer coaching system allows athletes to get superior instructor & develop opportunity to excel, achieve and participate in training at the most intense, friendships like never before. The camp dates are June 16th thru 20th in Elk Grove Village. For details and registration forms contact:

Patty Hermann
Superstar/ELITE Athletics Founder
847-804-3547



The daughter of CEO of Barnes & Noble, Melissa Riggio lost her battle with Leukemia. In the wake of Melissa's tragic loss to her battle with leukemia, I thought I'd post a bit of info about DS and leukemia. Leukemia deaths in pediatric leukemia are rare and even rarer for children with Down syndrome. Around a 98% cure rate for some leukemia. Unfortunately anyone who develops cancer, regardless of a Down syndrome, between the age of 6 and 20, has a much lower chance of survival. Children with Down syndrome have a 20-30 times greater risk of leukemia than other children who do not have DS. That's about 1 in 100 vs. the 1 in 330 young people who do not have DS. However, kids with DS actually have a higher cure rate for some forms of leukemia and almost no risk of tumor cancers. So what do you look out for? Since our kids are at a higher risk for this cancer, and often less verbal. Here are things to watch for:

Continued, unexplained weight loss

Headaches, often with vomiting, at night or early morning

Increased swelling or persistent pain in bones, joints, back or legs

Lump or mass, especially in the abdomen, neck, chest, pelvis, or armpits

Development of excessive bruising, bleeding or rash

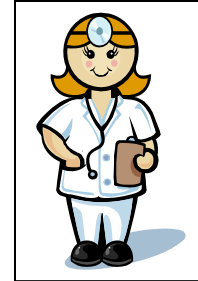
Continued Infections

A whitish color behind the pupil

Nausea which persists or vomiting without nausea

Constant tiredness or noticeable paleness

Eye or vision changes which occur suddenly or persist



The Developmental-Behavioral Pediatrics Center,

located at 1555 N. Barrington Rd. Suite 415 in Hoffman Estates

is pleased to announce the opening of

The Pediatric Down Syndrome Clinic. Children in this clinic are evaluated by members of a

multidisciplinary team with extensive expertise in providing medical and developmental care to children with Down syndrome.

Appointments are now being taken. For more information please call 847.490.4222.

Dr. Cesar Ochoa, MD, Developmental-Behavioral Pediatrician

Christopher Watson, PsyD

Gretchen Hatchett, Social Worker

Maureen Lenke, Occupational Therapist

Dr. Nancy Keck, MD, Developmental-Behavioral Pediatrician

Colette Titus, Speech-Language Pathologist

MAY BIRTHDAYS!!!

Crystal Acosta	1984
Eric Anderson	1971
Kenny Collins	1977
Alexa Donato	1999
John Froemke Jr.	1982
Amanda Garcia	1995
Jacob Gartley	1995
Brandon Hagy	2000
Tristian Hildalgo	2003
Talia Kotel	1998
Lauren Lirgameris	2004
Bailey Markko	1997
Michael Novy	1985
Ashley Olaez	2004
Samuel Petri	1999
Chesea Rainish	1988
Michael Saavedra	2000

Donate to DDC!

The Down Syndrome Development Council (DDC) provides support, educational programs, social events and monthly newsletters to families of individuals with Down syndrome as well as Down syndrome awareness in our communities. The DDC no longer charges membership dues, or fees for most of our programs. Our costs are covered entirely by donations and various fund raising events. If you would like to contribute to DDC to help us cover the costs of our programs and newsletters, please complete the following form and mail it, along with your check (payable to Down Syndrome Development Council) to: DDC, P.O. Box 906, Mundelein, IL 60060

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ ZIP _____

Phone _____ e-mail address _____

Amount: \$ _____

I would like my donation to be acknowledged in the next newsletter (no amounts will be published) _____yes
_____no

My donation is in honor of: _____

or in memory of: _____

If you have any questions, please contact any of the board members by phone or e-mail.

Thank You for your generosity

Anonymous (individual)

K of C Charities, Council #3674

Susan Keating

Allstate Giving Campaign

The Down Syndrome Development Council extends a sincere *thank you* to all of the above donors whose contributions were received in March and April 2008. A special thank you to the Knights of Columbus Council #3674 (Libertyville), who donated \$1,100 to DDC from funds raised during the Tootsie Roll Drive last September. Your generosity will allow DDC to continue to offer quality programs and services to our members!

Playgroup

Our monthly playgroup meets on the 3rd Thursday evening of the month. Families are encouraged to bring all of their children for an interactive group play therapy session, led by our developmental therapist Kris Murray and hosted by various DDC parents. The Thursday evening playgroup includes a light dinner. Spanish language interpreters are available with advance notice. These playgroups are completely free of charge and open to all DDC member families! For more information about the upcoming playgroup schedule and locations, please contact Kris Murray (847-630-4991) or Belinda Hidalgo (hidalgob@comcast.net). **If you would be interested in attending a Saturday morning playgroup, please contact Belinda.**

DDC Board Members 2007-2008

President	Patrick Collins	847-265-8482	rjohncol@comcast.net
Vice Pres	Mary Lou Pa	847-548-4852	mlpaff@aol.com
Secretary	Jennifer Jenkins	847-970-6797	only_connect@msn.com
Treasurer	Janis Kern	847-548-4417	Janiskern@comcast.net
Past Pres	Andrea O'Donnell	847-949-1975	odonna@sbcglobal.net
Playgroups	Belinda Hidalgo	847-838-4398	Hidalgob@comcast.net
Board	RaeAnn Collins	847-265-8482	rjohncol@comcast.net
Newsletter	Terri Christolini	847-267-1169	Christolin@aol.com
Foro (Spanish Issue)	Anna Roeser	847-362-0980	roeser1984@yahoo.com