



Brogan Hora

Erin Dominiak & Chris Hebein

NADS News

Newsletter for the National Association for Down Syndrome

January, 2015

NADS 30th Annual Bowl-A-Thon March 1, 2015

The 2015 Bowl-A-Thon is coming up! Please help us celebrate the 30th anniversary of this event by joining us March 1st at the Stardust Bowl, 37 East Lorraine Avenue in Addison, IL. Come spend a fun afternoon bowling with others in the Down syndrome community and helping to raise money for NADS. Our website has all the information you will need to register and set up your very own fundraising page, but here is a quick overview:

Registration

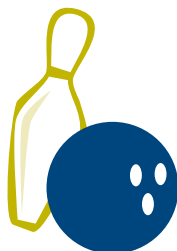
- All bowlers must register by February 20. You can register online at www.nads.org or mail in a registration form.

- You can register as an individual or part of a team.
- All bowlers (individuals and each member of a team) need to have a minimum of \$100 in pledges.
- Pledges may be for a specific dollar amount or per pin.
- On March 1, check-in begins at 11:00. Bowling begins at noon.

Please call the NADS office at 630-325-9112 if you need registration assistance.

Prizes

We depend on your help to obtain items for choice raffles and door prizes, such as merchandise, tickets to sporting or cultural events, electronics, gift certificates,



hotel packages, or other gifts. Many businesses are willing to donate prizes, and we would appreciate any assistance you can provide in reaching out to the business community.

Grand raffle tickets will be mailed out in January, and you can help us by selling them in your community. The winner will be announced at the end of the Bowl-A-Thon but need not be present to accept the prize.

Sponsorships

Any employer, business, or group is invited to become a Sponsor for the Bowl-A-Thon. Please contact the NADS office at 630-325-9112 if you would like

to become a sponsor or know of an organization that might be interested in sponsorship opportunities.

The Bowl-A-Thon is our biggest fundraiser and makes possible the valuable services we provide to families, such as new parent packets and parent support, public awareness and speaking programs, our conference, our newsletter, our self-advocate program and more. We depend on your involvement to make this event a success and appreciate any assistance you are willing to provide, whether it is arranging for door and choice raffle prizes to be donated, selling raffle tickets, obtaining pledges as a bowler, or volunteering at the event. We hope you will join us March 1st!

Contents

3

Resources
Book Reviews

4

Homecoming King
Steve Beck Memorial

5

Fashion show
Mallory & Monica
New Radio Documentary

6

Upcoming Events
Speak Up and Speak Out
Self-Advocates at Drummond
School

7

Speakers at the Buddy Walk
Models Needed!

8

Partners Not Caregivers
Adult Matters on the NADS
Website

9

Fundraising
College
Camp PALS

10

Family Album

11

Farewell to Paul Lee
2015 Magic Show



NADS News is a publication of the National Association for Down Syndrome (NADS).

For more information call or write:

National Association
for Down Syndrome
1460 Renaissance Drive, Suite 405,
Park Ridge, IL 60068

630 325-9112

or visit www.nads.org

Exec. Director Diane Urhausen
President Steve Connors
Editor Ann Garcia

Defining Differences

Cara Tazioli

"Your baby brother has Down syndrome."

These words were daunting in association with the cute little boy my parents had just brought home to join our family. As we gathered in the family room, "ooing" and "ahing," passing Ryan from one sibling's arms to another, I could not help but wonder what exactly this "diagnosis" meant for my little brother and for our family? After celebrating the joy of Ryan's birth, I felt the fear of the unknown.

During the early years of Ryan's life, I maintained my denial that he was any different from any other little baby. He looked the same, perhaps even a little cuter in my eyes. He smiled the same, laughed the same, loved the same, he was the same. More importantly, he was my brother and at that time defining him as different seemed to carry a negative connotation. However, different is not a bad thing. If you identify synonyms of different, you find the words; individual, independent, divergent. And let's be honest, these are positive words. Who would not want to be defined by them. Looking into the deeper meaning, I have to agree that Ryan is in fact different.

Ryan is different. He is different because he loves without question. When I brought my now fiancé home to meet my family for the first time, I was nervous. I dreaded any awkward moments

in that initial meeting, but Ryan doesn't allow for strangers to feel unwelcome. When you visit my home, Ryan will take you by the hand and introduce you to everyone in his large family of eight. He will pepper you with questions about yourself, engaging you immediately in conversation, offer you some food and choices of a beverage, relay a joke or funny story, demand you laugh, and more than likely the visit will end with a group hug. I don't know many individuals who welcome all without hesitation, and in this way Ryan is different.

Ryan is different because he doesn't care what people think. If he wishes to strike a silly pose, he will strike it, even if it takes place while walking down the aisle at our sister's wedding. If he is at a packed event and his favorite song comes on, then out come the dance moves. Ryan knows how to bring the fun regardless of the crowd. Again, I don't know many people who do what makes them happy without first thinking about the thoughts and opinions of others, but Ryan does and that makes him different.

I have come to find that the world would be a pretty boring place without Ryan and every other person in our world who openly expresses individuality. Ryan continuously brings a



Cara & Ryan

smile to my face each day. He has taught me extreme patience in times of trial, the importance of focusing on the positive things that surround you each day, the benefits of finding moments of silliness throughout your day and most importantly to be yourself. Ryan has taught me to be accepting of other people's differences because everyone should not be the same. That is the beauty of life.

There really is no greater gift than having a sibling who is "different."

Editor's Note: Cara Tazioli was 11 when her brother, Ryan, was born. She is currently a member of the NADS Communications Committee.

New Reading Resource

Down Syndrome Education International and researchers at the Centre for Reading and Language at the University of York have developed a new method for teaching reading to children with Down syndrome: REVI+. Their reading program was subjected to a randomized control trial to evaluate its effectiveness, and after 20 weeks, children who were using the program made greater gains in reading than children who were not, though the study also showed that the techniques were most helpful to children who already had some language skills. For more information about the research, go to <http://onlinelibrary.wiley.com/doi/10.1111/j.1469-7610.2012.02557.x/pdf>. For a teacher's handbook on how to implement the program, go to <http://www.dseinternational.org/en-gb/resources/teaching/rli/resources/>.

See and Learn Apps

A new series of apps designed to help children with Down syndrome develop language and reading skills are available at www.seeandlearn.org/en-us/apps/. The See and Learn program was developed by Down Syndrome Education International and Down Syndrome Education USA. The apps can run on a variety of tablets and computers and can be purchased through the Apple Store, Google Play, the Windows Store, or Amazon.

BOOK REVIEWS

Gross Motor Skills for Children with Down Syndrome, 2nd ed.

Patricia Winders
Woodbine House, 2014;
\$29.95

This updated version of Patricia Winders' valuable guide for parents and professionals includes additional activities and photos and up-to-date strategies for dealing with challenges. A companion app is also available through the iTunes App Store.

Sleep Better! A Guide to Improving Sleep for Children with Special Needs, Revised Edition

V. Mark Durand
Brookes Publishing, 2014;
\$24.95

The author, a psychologist and father, shares personal advice and research-based

solutions for tackling nighttime challenges, from tantrums to bedwetting to sleep disruptions. Supplemental materials include a sleep diary and behavior log as well as additional sleep resources.

Supporting People with Intellectual Disabilities Experiencing Loss and Bereavement: Theory and Compassionate Practice

Sue Read
Jessica Kingsley, 2014;
\$49.95

A collection of academic and personal perspectives on how to help individuals with intellectual disabilities cope with various kinds of loss.

Hansel and Gretel: A Fairy Tale with a Down Syndrome Twist

Jewel Kats
Loving Healing Press, 2014;
\$15.95

Inclusion Resources

INCLUSIVE SCHOOLS NETWORK

The Inclusive Schools Network offers many educational resources to promote inclusion in schools. It was established after the success of the first Inclusive Schools Week in 2001 to continue that event, which is observed during the first week of December, and to develop educational resources for families and schools. For more information, go to www.inclusiveschools.org.

THE INCLUSIVE CLASS

The Inclusive Class is a blog run by parents with special education expertise to share strategies for teaching children in the inclusive class. Their website includes many articles and resources, with materials for both parents and teachers. To access the information, go to www.theinclusiveclass.com.

NATIONAL INCLUSION PROJECT

The National Inclusion Project facilitates community inclusion for people with disabilities, partnering with recreation programs, park districts, and organizations such as Best Buddies and Boys and Girls Club to provide inclusion opportunities for over 50,000 children. To find out more, go to www.inclusionproject.org.

In this version of the classic fairy tale, Hansel is a 5 year old boy with Down syndrome. Includes felt illustrations by Claudia Lenart.

Beautiful Eyes: A Father Transformed

Paul Austin
W.W. Norton, 2014; \$25.95

A father reflects on his

journey with his daughter with Down syndrome, beginning with her birth and ending with her life as a young adult living in a group home.

Homecoming King

Lisa Sylvie

Joshua Daniel Sylvie is 18 years old and is a senior at Riverside Brookfield High School (RB) in Riverside, IL. Joshua has outstanding school spirit. He attends most school sporting events (Girls, Boys, Varsity, JV, etc... Football, basketball Volleyball etc.). He's a part of the "Sixth" man cheering squad at basketball events. Josh is very proud of his school and has incredible team spirit. He himself plays Special Needs basketball, runs track and has represented RB twice in the Special Olympics. He has gold and bronze medals in the "Tennis Ball throw" event. Josh is also an active part of the phenomenal "Best Buddies" program.

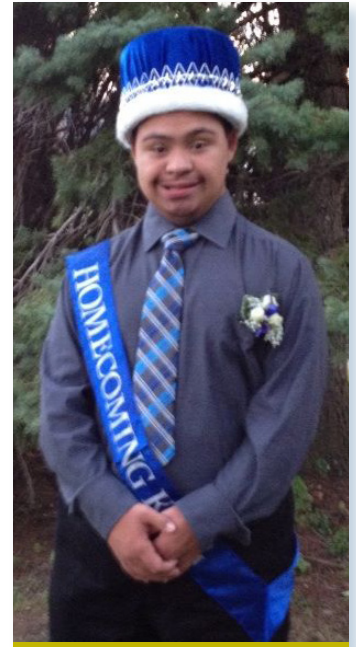
Josh delivers mail at school and greets all that he encounters with the most sincere welcome, hugs, high fives etc. His genuine, sincere and infectious love for people, and ability to see goodness in all, has

spread throughout the school. It's been quite amazing the reception and warmth that he has received from the student body and faculty. Almost everyone knows who Josh is. He simply brightens your day by offering you the most sincere and heartfelt hello. He has big dreams (a huge mansion with a pool and of course an on-site McDonalds and Starbucks etc....) In other words, with Josh, everything is possible and achievable. He likes to say "It's all about being who you are, follow your dreams, and do your best." We think Josh's popularity is just a human response to his unconditional love and affection for others.

At first, when Joshua was nominated for Homecoming King, he was very surprised, excited and a little nervous. The day of the Pep Rally and crowning, as he rode in with the homecoming court, the student body

went crazy. We knew at that moment that there truly was a special connection with Josh and the student body. Josh crossed his fingers and sat anxiously as he awaited the announcement of the Queen and King. When his name was called for KING, he was kind of in shock. He was so very excited! Amazingly, and most importantly all of the other candidates cheered and congratulated Josh with the most sincere and genuine happiness that he had won. He wore (and wears) his crown with pride. It was truly an incredible moment in his and our lives.

We think that an article written by the student staff for the School Newspaper (Clarion) "We just couldn't wait for him to be King" sums up things better than we could (bclarion.com/top-stories/2014/09/25/staff-editorial-we-just-couldnt-wait-for-him-to-be-king/). We can't say enough about



Joshua Daniel Sylvie

how wonderful and proud we are of the kids and staff at Riverside Brookfield High School. Josh's high school experience has exceeded our highest and wildest expectations. We can't put into words how compassionate, understanding, mature and really just awesome these young adult students have been. They mean the world to Josh and to us.

Steve Beck Memorial

Steve Connors, NADS President

On December 8, 2014, the Down syndrome community lost a leader and a friend when Steve Beck passed away at his home in northern Virginia. Beck served on the Board of the National Down Syndrome Society (NDSS) and on the Board of Directors for the Down Syndrome Association of Northern Virginia (DSANV).

As an advocate for people with Down syndrome and their families, Steve Beck worked tirelessly to enlist support for the Achieving a Better Life Experience (ABLE) Act. "It was eight years ago that our dear friend, Steve, came up with a plan to help his daughter save for the future. Without Steve seeing firsthand the inequities that exist in the current system for people with Down syndrome, we may not be on the verge of passing this landmark bill and helping millions of Americans. The ABLE Act should be forever remembered as Steve's legacy and be known as our 'Beck Bill'," said Sara Hart Weir, NDSS interim President.

Steve Beck is survived by his wife, Catherine, and his two daughters, Maria Rose and Natalie. The thoughts and prayers of NADS are with the Beck family.



NADS Fashion Show

The 9th Annual Fashion Show took place Sunday, October 26, 2014.

The models, who ranged in age from 5 months to their 20s, once again lit up the stage to the delight of an appreciative audience. Stacey Baca of Channel 7 News returned as the host, and this year, NADS welcomed a new group, the Pep Squad, who performed a cheerleading routine. Shelly Clayton was the featured speaker. Thank you to the many families and volunteers who helped to make this event a success and helped us to celebrate the many different talents and experiences of individuals with Down syndrome.



Olivia Richards



Hope Komacki



Monica & Mallory

Mallory & Monica at the Fashion Show

Bonnie Taylor

Mallory Taylor and Monica Jauch have grown up across the street from each other. When they were in first grade their photo was chosen to be on a NADS bookmark featuring the text, "Don't be surprised if people with Down syndrome make good friends." Mallory and Monica's friendship continues...this year they are both high school seniors! Monica and her Mom have come every year to support Mallory in the NADS annual Fashion Show.

Any families interested in participating in or volunteering for next year's event, which will be _____, please contact the NADS office or email fashionshow@nads.org.

New Radio Documentary

Jane Leder, a local author and journalist, recently completed a radio documentary about people with intellectual disabilities which features 2 residents of Misericordia who have Down syndrome. To hear the documentary, go to her website, www.janeleder.net, and click on "More Work," then look for the radio documentary, "What a Difference Differences Make."



UPCOMING EVENTS

NADS Magic Show January 25

1:00 pm
Arcada Theatre
St. Charles, IL

Trivia Night February 21

Sponsored by the Zion
Fire Department
Contact NADS for
information
630-325-9112 or
info@nads.org

NADS Bowl-A-Thon March 1

11:00 – 3:00
Stardust Bowl
Addison, IL

Planning for the Future for Children and Adults with Intellectual and/ or Developmental Disabilities

February 17

9:00 – 12:30
Chicago, IL
www.thearcofil.org

NDSC Convention June 25-28

Phoenix, Arizona
www.ndscenter.org

SELF-ADVOCACY

Speak Up and Speak Out Summit

Kelly Neville, NADS Self-Advocate

On Monday, November 3rd my mom and I went down to the Hilton Hotel in Springfield to spend the night. I was going to be speaking in the morning and we came down the night before to be ready early the next day. I was speaking at the Speak Up and Speak Out Summit. This was the 9th year for the summit but this was my first time hearing about it. It is a conference for people with disabilities from all over the state to be empowered to live their best life. The best part about staying in a hotel is that I got to order room service! After dinner we went down to Bridget Brown's room to go over my speech. Bridget was the keynote speaker and she asked me and a couple of other people to be a part of her speech.

A couple of months before the summit, Bridget asked me to be a part of her speech. She wanted to show the people that attended the summit that you can do magnificent things.

She wanted to inspire the group and get them excited about doing what they want with their lives and not to be afraid to go after their dreams. I was there to show them that I had a dream and that I made it come true.

There were about 550 adults with disabilities that attended the summit. It was a lot of people to speak in front of but I was not nervous. I talked about what my life was like now that I was an adult. I told them about my job at Small Smiles and about my business, Special Sparkle. I also told them about my volunteer work for NADS. I showed a PowerPoint of me speaking as an Adult Self Advocate and at all the places that I work at like the Bowl-A-Thon and the Buddy Walk. I also told them about how each of these areas of my life made me feel. I feel blessed and proud to have a job and earn a paycheck. I feel lucky to be able to do what I love and create beautiful jewelry. I also want people to know that I love my life and want



Kelly Neville

to spread awareness about Down syndrome through my public speaking.

The people who attended the summit went to workshops and spent time looking at the vendors that were there. I had my jewelry displayed and many people came by to talk to me about how I started my business. I was glad to inform people about my life and to help them to speak up about what they want for their life. Bridget did a great job as the keynote speaker and I was honored to be a part of it.

Self-Advocates at Drummond Montessori School

Self-Advocate Kelly Neville and her mother, Karen, recently presented to 4-6th graders at Drummond Montessori School, while Self-Advocate Julia Smarto and her mother, Linda, presented to 7-8th graders. Their presentations were well received, as these responses show:

"Thank you for the presentation! It left a lasting impression on our school."

"Thank you very much for coming to our school. We are grateful for the work you and your daughters are doing to raise awareness about Down Syndrome.

Love from Drummond"



Julia Smarto & Kelly Neville at Drummond

NADS Speakers at the Buddy Walk in West Virginia

Amy Loftis
President, Down Syndrome
Network of WV

When my son, Adam, was born and we were told of a diagnosis of Down syndrome, I had an immediate yearning to meet others who were “like us.” A family with a child with Down syndrome. I became involved with our local DS support group, the Down Syndrome Network of WV, which led me to an Affiliates in Action conference in Cincinnati, OH in 2012. The last session I attended was presented by Linda Smarto and her daughter, Julia Smarto, on the self-advocate program implemented by NADS. My friend and I were very impressed with the presentation and vowed to bring them to our group to share their program.

Our organization, DSNWV, is in the 13th year and growing. DSNWV serves the entire state of WV and although we have many members, the demographics of our state make it difficult for many to attend programs and/or events. Our largest fundraiser/event for the year is our annual Buddy Walk and Reception Dinner.

People from all over the state, as well as families from Virginia, Kentucky, and Ohio, come for this exciting event to celebrate their loved ones with an extra chromosome. Each year we invite a guest speaker to come to the Buddy Walk to share some insight about their journeys. One of the more common questions from parents recently is what kind of programs there are available after their son/daughter is out of school. I recalled the conference I attended and contacted Linda.

On Friday, October 10, 2014, we had the pleasure of having Linda and Julia Smarto attend our annual Buddy Walk Reception dinner in Charleston, WV. I had spoken several times to Linda by phone and by email about the needs of our small group. When they arrived Friday evening, meeting them for the first time in person, there was an instant connection. I felt like they were like family and I’d known them forever. After dinner, Julia and Linda shared with an audience of about 100 people about the NADS self-advocate program. We were inspired to learn about how NADS

teaches young adults to be self-advocates. To hear all of the things that Julia is successful with and how proud she is to share her accomplishments was truly inspiring, especially to parents of young children with DS. The crowd approved by giving Julia a standing ovation for a wonderful presentation.

The next morning, Saturday, October 11, was the big day; the Buddy Walk! Located at the West Virginia State Capitol, Julia and Linda were able to meet and mingle with families and buddies at the Buddy Registration table. They talked with each family about NADS and handed out Buddy Bags. During the opening ceremonies, just before the walk, Julia



Julia Smarto & Amy Loftis at Buddy Walk

spoke to the crowd of about 800 and then led the walk around the State Capitol. Although the weather was a little rainy, everyone had a great time raising awareness and celebrating Down syndrome!

We are so grateful for Julia and Linda sharing with DSNWV! Even though we are far apart in miles, we share a common bond that draws us close in heart. Thank you, Julia and Linda!

Attention: Models Needed!

We are currently in the process of updating our resources and we need your help. We are looking for high resolution photos (no cell phone pics) to share potentially online and/or in printed materials. Please send your favorite shots to info@nads.org. We also ask you to send in a photo release, which you can find on our website. Thanks for sharing!

Partners Not Caregivers

Marjorie Sullivan Lee

If you recognize a household with a 92-year-old widowed mother and a 53-year-old son who is identified with Down syndrome, what is your first question? Who is the caregiver? The answer is: “no caregiver, just partners and housemates.”

Luckily, good health sets the stage for both. Chores are divided. What initially was defined as partial participation for Kevin has become the daily routine. Mom does tend to set the rules, but Kevin continues to maintain his chores in his own manner that could be described as “perfectionist” – perfectly folded laundry, etc.

The reason for sharing our pattern of life is that, hopefully, some other families may follow in our footsteps and encourage long-term living in the community rather than in a protected environment.

Without any intended indoctrination for Kevin, my husband John and I worked for inclusion and we have practiced this principle. Amazingly, Kevin has absorbed this to the extent that he does not want to be involved with other people with the same or similar diagnosis. In many ways this is difficult – social graces and respect for others need to be emphasized.

Kevin’s current activities do not include any special needs programs. He has found good inclusion as a one-credit student each term at our local community

college. Instruction has been one-on-one, but just by being on campus he has developed friendships. Granted these contacts are only on campus, but they provide a pleasant addition to his daily life.

Kevin’s siblings provide a great part of our recreation, either by their visits to us or our flight trips to their distant homes – sometimes with Kevin flying solo.

Of major significance is that after my demise Kevin will need support. Even though he has a great amount of independence, there are needs. Kevin would be unhappy in a group setting. He enjoys our little condo and its proximity to his “turf” at the community college. What will be the method of support? His brothers and sisters are devoted to him but their lives and careers are geographically distant. What is ahead cannot be easily determined.

When I analyze our separate roles, I am impressed with Kevin’s housekeeping skills and his good decision-making ability related to his daily activities and his personally-determined linkage to siblings and friends. Beyond these his major needs are for a chauffeur and a cook. These are the roles that I hold currently in addition to handling the finances of the household.

What is my message?

We are blessed with good health, blessings, and the loving support of Kevin’s five siblings as well as good



Kevin and Marj Lee

neighbors and many fellow parishioners. In 1960, when Kevin was born, this life style was not indicated as a possibility. Our five-plus

University of Oklahoma, College of Medicine.

Editor’s Note: Marjorie Lee was one of the founding members of NADS. Her husband, John, was NADS’ first President, and she and her husband have advocated for inclusion in education and the community for many years. She also helped found the Parents Alliance Employment Project.



Kevin making brownies

decades have been spent working for change and enjoying the fact that many changes have occurred through the efforts of families like ours.

Our hope is for a great future!

Published in 2014 edition of *Blood and Thunder, Musings on the Art of Medicine, The*

Adult Matters on the NADS Website

Laura Drower, Adult Matters Committee Chair

Have you visited the Teen and Adult Pages on the NADS website lately? Check them out to peruse the wealth of information available there. If we are missing any great programs or options that you are aware of, please let us know so we can include them.

FUNDRAISING

Donation from CIAO in Honor of Alex Battistoni

We are grateful for the continued support from CIAO (Charities from Italian Automobile Owners), who have sponsored a yearly car event and donated the proceeds in honor of Alex Battistoni, son of former NADS Board Member Aileen Battistoni. This year's event was a car show and raised \$775 for NADS. Thank you to all involved for this generous donation.

We were also glad to receive this update on Alex from the Battistonis:

"Alex is currently a 7th grader at Emerson Middle School in Park Ridge. Alex enjoys his classes almost as much as he enjoys the after school programs like Movie Club and Best Buddies. For the 3rd year, Alex has joined the cast of Special Gifts Theatre. This year's performance is Peter Pan and Alex will be portraying Smee, Captain Hook's lovable sidekick. Several of Alex's classmates are also now his cast mates at the organization's new location in Edison Park. Already comfortable on stage, having completed 2 previous productions, we know this year's performance will surely delight and entertain everyone involved and in attendance.

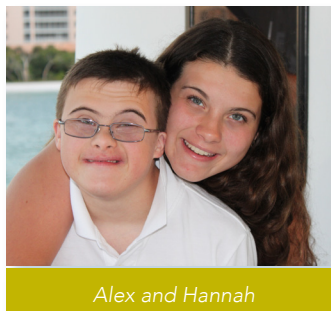
The CIAO group has chosen to support NADS, Alex and all our families - and we are so grateful. The rally is a fun and lighthearted way to spread the word of NADS' important work for and support of all Chicagoland families embarking on a new journey. NADS taught us as a family the importance of spreading the good news that can be found in the loving arms of not only our beautiful children but also in the embrace of the entire Down syndrome community. As a family, we are grateful to NADS and CIAO for being Alex's voice."

Donation from Woodward Charitable Trust

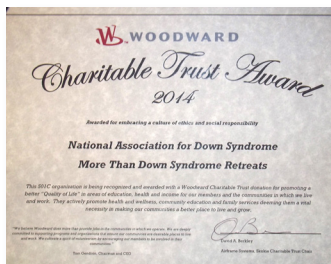
Many thanks to the Woodward Charitable Trust for once again choosing NADS to receive their Charitable Trust Award, which this year was given to recognize the help we have provided to families through our More Than Down Syndrome Retreats. We greatly appreciate their award of \$3,500 and their ongoing support.

BP Luncheon

On December 2, 2014, NADS was honored to be among the organizations recognized by BP America, Inc. at their Annual Recognition & Awards Luncheon. NADS Executive Director, Diane Urhausen, and NADS President, Steve Connors, were present at the luncheon to accept the \$1,000 grant. We are grateful to Mr. James Unnerstall, who recommended NADS for the award, as well as the BP Volunteers-Chicago, who organized the awards ceremony. We are grateful for this honor!



Alex and Hannah



Camp PALS

Camp PALS is a summer camp for people with Down syndrome offered at 8 locations across the U.S., including Camp PALS Chicago July 26 – August 1 at Elmhurst College in Elmhurst, IL. Spots fill quickly, so if you are interested, you should contact them early. Applications are available January 1st at www.palsprograms.org.

COLLEGE

CONTINUING EDUCATION OPPORTUNITIES AT THE COLLEGE OF DUPAGE

The College of DuPage, a community college in Glen Ellyn, offers courses for young adults with developmental disabilities through their Reach Out program. Classes cover subjects such as communication or self-advocacy skills, fitness and nutrition, and more. For more information, contact Danielle Kuglin Seago at 630-942-2208 or go to www.cod.edu/reachout.

COLLEGE SCHOLARSHIPS AVAILABLE

Ruby's Rainbow is a non-profit organization which provides scholarships for individuals with Down syndrome to go to college or take post-secondary enrichment classes. For more information, go to www.rubysrainbow.org.

COLLEGE GUIDE FOR PEOPLE WITH DISABILITIES

Best Colleges has added a new resource guide for students with disabilities who are interested in attending college. You can find it at www.bestcolleges.com/resources/disabled-students/.

family album



Lindsey Pazerunas



Josh Talbot



Jacob Spenadel

We Need Your Photos!

Send your Family Album photos to NADS!

c/o shebein@nads.org



Adrian Drower



Gina Rotondi



Natalie Hubert

2015 "Believe in Magic"

SUNDAY JANUARY 25, 2015 AT 1:00 PM
 ARCADA THEATRE: 105 EAST MAIN STREET, ST. CHARLES IL

Our annual "Believe in Magic" magic and variety show will return this year as a tribute to its founder, Master Magician Paul Lee. Paul's fellow magicians will carry on the show to honor his wishes and the contributions he made to the magic community and to NADS. The show will feature performances from magicians Steve Chezaday, Dennis Debondt, Jania Taylor, Karen Burris, Anthony Stockton, and Trent Rivas. Strolling magicians Plaz Garcia, Raime Townsend, and Steve Joyce will entertain crowds before the event, and face painter Melody Pekarek will also be back. Tickets are available online, or you can mail in the order form on this page. Tickets must be ordered by January 16, 2015 and will be held at the door.



NADS MAGIC SHOW TICKET ORDER FORM

Number of Tickets

..... at \$15/adult =

..... at \$10/child (12 and under) =

..... at \$10/senior (62 and older) =

..... at \$10/individual with Down Syndrome =

..... Additional NADS Donation =

Total # of Tickets

Total Cost =

Check Enclosed

Credit Card **Total Paid: \$**

Charge To: Visa Mastercard Discover Amex

Acct. #:

Exp. Date: Code

Signature:

Name:

Address:

City: State: Zip:

Email:

Phone:

Please mail this form to:

NADS
1460 Renaissance Drive, Suite 405
Park Ridge, IL, 60068

For more information, please call NADS at 630-325-9112 or go to www.nads.org.

Tickets will be held at the door the day of the event.

No tickets will be mailed in advance.
 All ticket sales are final. No refunds.

Farewell to Paul Lee

1959-2014

It is with great sadness that we say goodbye to magician Paul Lee, who founded the NADS "Believe in Magic" show in 2012 and delighted many NADS families with his magical performances. He was a professional magician for over 38 years, serving as ringmaster for the Franzen Brothers Circus for 4 years and headlining shows at Riverview Park and Waterworld in the Wisconsin Dells. He performed over 300 shows a year in the Chicago area, and in 2010, CBS Chicago put him at the top of their list of Best Local Magicians in Chicago.



He donated his time and talent to many charities, including the Make-A-Wish Foundation and the Starlight Foundation, but after his niece, Teagan, was born with Down syndrome in 2007, he was inspired to help Down syndrome organizations, eventually connecting with NADS. According to fellow magician, Steve Chezaday, Paul's "proudest work was producing the 'Believe in Magic' show."

We deeply appreciate all the support Paul Lee gave to our organization. He thought of us even in the final stages of his life, making plans for the show and expressing the wish that it go on in his absence. Thanks to the commitment of his fellow magicians, we will be honoring that wish, but we know that the show—and the NADS community—will not be the same without him. He will be greatly missed!



1460 Renaissance Drive, Suite 405
Park Ridge, IL 60068

Change Service Requested

www.nads.org

Membership Application

Membership dues can be paid online at www.nads.org

Name:

Address:

City: State: ZIP:

Phone (home) Phone (work)

Email Address:

Please add me to the NADS e-mail alert list

Category of Membership (check one)

Parent: \$25.00 (1 Year) \$70.00 (3 Year) Child's birthdate:/...../.....

Professional: * \$30.00 (1 Year) \$85.00 (3 Year)

*Please indicate professional involvement:

Donation level: Contributor (\$100+) Benefactor (\$500+) Patron (\$1000+)

Check if Renewal

Make checks payable to: **NADS** and send to:
P1460 Renaissance Drive, Suite 405, Park Ridge, IL 60068

Special Gift!
A NADS Membership is the perfect gift for grandparents, aunts and uncles and even your child's favorite teacher!

NADS GIFT MEMBERSHIP
Please send a NADS gift membership to:

Name:

Address:

From:

Phone:

Relationship:

\$20 per recipient should be enclosed and sent to:
National Association for Down Syndrome (NADS), 1460 Renaissance Drive, Suite 405, Park Ridge, IL 60068

Non-Profit Org.
U.S. Postage
PAID
Permit No. 202
Wilmette, IL

The editor of this newsletter writes as a non-professional. NADS does not promote any therapy, treatment, institution or professional system, etc. The editor reserves the right to make any such corrections as necessary in accordance with established editorial practice in material submitted.