

“Families First—Preparing for the Future” General Conference



In the early part of October you received a mailing from the DSOSN regarding the “Families First—Preparing for the Future” general conference. This conference will be held at the UNLV Moyer Student Union Conference Center on November 16th and 17th, 2007. This will be a wonderful, informational event for families to attend. As referenced in the mailing, the topics are

numerous and will be very informative. Many hours of planning have gone into this conference to make sure it will benefit families, administrators, medical professionals, educators, advocates, caregivers, policymakers, and others providing support or care for someone with disabilities or special health care needs. The DSOSN will be giving a presentation on Friday, November 16, 2007. We will be talking about Early Childhood with the Clark County School District, fundraising and how it helps us with our mission, and concerns the organization has when parents are notified they will be par-

ents of a child with Down syndrome.

There are many agencies throughout the Las Vegas community who will be giving presentations. Please read over the October mailing, and if you see any topics you are really interested in or topics you feel will help your family, I encourage you to sign up for that session.



Special points of interest:

- ◆ Families First Conference
- ◆ Festival of Trees & Lights
- ◆ New Vista Community Emporium
- ◆ Spirit Therapy Meeting

Festival of Trees and Lights—December 1, 2007 at the Paris Hotel



The Festival of Trees and Lights Gala is less than one-month away. This annual fundraiser for the DSOSN is in the final stages of planning and preparation. This year the gala will be back at the Paris Hotel and Casino. We are featuring over 35 designer trees to be auctioned off during the eve-

ning. Wreaths, baskets, and the new addition this year of stockings, will also be up for auction. Fabulous gifts and prizes are included with all of the trees, wreaths, baskets and stockings.

This annual fundraiser is our largest fundraiser of the year. Many of the local businesses and hotels have joined forces with the DSOSN this year to create the most fabulous decorated trees you can imagine.

The DSOSN will be hosting a meet and greet for those members not attending the gala. The meet

and greet is free of charge to all of our members.

This year at the meet and greet you will be meeting Andrea Friedman and Blair Williamson. Andrea played Chris Burke’s girlfriend on the television show “Life Goes on.” Blair has played on numerous television shows including CSI, Nip Tuck and ER. Both are very successful individuals who have Down syndrome. Light refreshments will be served. The Meet and Greet will be from 4:00 to 6:00 PM on Saturday, December 1st. Please RSVP to the DSOSN office at 648-1990.



Inside this issue:

- New Vista Community Emporium* 2
- Buddy Walk—Huge Success for DSOSN!* 2
- Newsletter Changes* 2
- Spirit Therapy Mandatory Meeting* 3
- Season’s Brunch* 3
- Young Adult & Teen Social Club* 4

New Vista Community Emporium



The Down Syndrome of Southern Nevada and New Vista Community have partnered to bring you some awesome deals on brand new merchandise that was

donated to the organizations. New Vista Community has an emporium store located at 5220 W. Charleston between Jones and Decatur. This is their new location and will be open for business by December 1, 2007. We want to encourage everyone to go check out the merchandise and make a purchase for some of your holiday

gift shopping needs. You will definitely find something for a gift or something you can use in your home. These are some of the same items the DSOSN has made available during our gift sales.

If you would like more information, please call the DSOSN office.

Buddy Walk was another Huge success for the DSOSN! Thanks to all our members, teams, volunteers and sponsors!

Buddy Walk—Another Huge Success for DSOSN!

Even though Mother Nature tried to blow the DSOSN Buddy Walk into the next county, it didn't stop our members and their teams from participating in this year's annual Buddy Walk. The volunteers, staff and Board of Directors arrived at the park early in the morning and started making the necessary preparations for the walk. Thanks to our 200 plus volunteers, we were able to

have a very successful Buddy Walk. All of the families and attendees had a wonderful time! We served hotdogs or chili dogs, cotton candy, sno cones, and a various assortment of soft drinks and juices. There was plenty of water available for all of our participants. Some members even brought along their dogs to enjoy the day with the family. If you were unable to participate in this year's

Buddy Walk, next year's walk has already been scheduled, so you can put it on your calendar and plan on forming a team or just coming to the park for a day outdoors and a day of family fun. Next year's Buddy Walk will be held on Saturday, October 4th at the same park! Check out all of the pictures on our website, www.dsosn.org.

Quarterly Newsletter

Because printing, paper and mailing costs are rising, we are going to try implementing a bimonthly newsletter rather than a monthly newsletter. Our website will be kept up to date with all the upcoming news, activities and socials, but I feel we need to try and cut printing expenses, so we will try out the "every other month newsletter" beginning

in 2008. You will be receiving newsletters in January, March, May, July, September and November. This will be an experiment to see how it goes. Please, if you would prefer to receive the newsletter via email, let me know and I will place you on the newsletter email list. If you want to be removed from our mailing list altogether, please let me know



as well. Please call the DSOSN office, 648-1990 and speak with Bonnie, or email her at bhall@dsosn.org.

Spirit Therapy Meeting

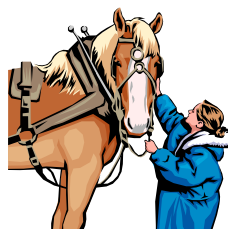
There will be a Spirit Therapy (horse therapy) meeting on Friday, November 9th, at 6:30 PM. This meeting is a mandatory meeting for all families currently enrolled for the therapy that will begin in January or March 2008. It is important you are in attendance at this meeting to get all the information you need for the therapy. There are enrollment forms that need to be filled out and a health criterion to be met. Sometimes there is a neck issue with our children with Down syndrome, and it will be necessary for you to

provide documentation from your pediatrician that your son/daughter is physically able to take part in this therapy. This documentation must be current, which means within the past year. Laurie Willmott, the owner of Spirit Therapies will be conducting this meeting, so she will be able to answer all of your questions.

The therapy session that begins in January is full, but the session beginning in March has room for five more children. Your child must be 12 years and older to be included

in this therapy. If you are interested in enrolling your child for this therapy, please call the DSOSN office.

Again, this is a mandatory meeting for everyone enrolled in the January class, and for anyone interested or already enrolled in the class that begins in March.



The DSOSN office will be closed on Thursday, November 22nd and Friday, November 23, 2007 in observance of Thanksgiving. All of us at the DSOSN wish you and your family a wonderful Thanksgiving holiday!



Season's Brunch

Season's Brunch for November will be on Monday, November 19, immediately following physical therapy, which normally ends at approximately 11:15 AM. We will be serving chili and cornbread. If you will be attending the brunch, it would be appreciated if you

could bring a salad or dessert. Please call Bonnie at the DSOSN office, 648-1990, or email her at bhall@dsosn.org to let her know if you will be attending and if you are able to bring either a salad or dessert. These monthly get togethers are a wonderful

opportunity for our members to relax and share stories, accomplishments, concerns, etc. Please plan on joining us for this get together. I will look forward to seeing you at the brunch!



Join us for
November's
Season's Brunch!
We will look
forward to seeing
you!

Date: 11/19/07

Time: 11:30 AM

Halloween Party—Huge Crowd and Spooky Haunted House!!!

On Friday, October 19th, the DSOSN building was transformed into a very scary place. It was decorated from top to bottom with scary skeletons, ghosts and goblins. The building was filled to capacity with so many of our families and members. Many of the children came in their costumes. We had a bottle filled with bugs (fake ones of course) and party goers were asked to guess how many bugs were in the bottle. The

winner was Carmen Torres. She won a \$25.00 gift card to Target. Way to go Carmen!!

The haunted house was a little bit scary and a little bit friendly. All of the kids had a ball going upstairs to see it. Most of them made many, many trips. There were so many scary things in the haunted house you had to make several trips just to see it all! We hope everyone had as much fun as Deann and Bonnie did! The refresh-

ments were great too! Thanks to everyone for bringing their items to eat!





Down Syndrome Organization of Southern Nevada

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We are on the
Web:
www.dsosn.org



The DSOSN will be closed on Monday, November 12th in observance of Veteran's Day. No physical therapy will be held on that day or dance therapy!

Young Adult and Teen Club

I hope everyone has not given up on me regarding our young adult and teen social group, but October was an extremely busy month for the DSOSN. We had three fundraisers, the Season's brunch and the Halloween party. Everything during October was a huge success, and we are thankful for all who participated.

As you are aware, Saturday, December 1, 2007,

is our annual Festival of Trees and Lights. This fundraiser requires many hours of preparation, not only during November, but throughout the year. I have decided that the young adult and teen socials will resume in January, allowing me to assist Deann with all of the Festival's preparations. In January's newsletter I will have a date and place for our

next social.

I hope you are looking forward to continuing these social events for our youth. Your suggestions for upcoming activities will be appreciated. Please call the DSOSN's office with any comments.