Wrap-Up Of Passed Events & Upcoming Event

Holiday Party – December
Thank you Ansay family for hosting a wonderful Holiday Party! Thanks to Santa for coming as the children (even the adults) loved it. We had a great turn out of about 60 people. The Chapter Elections were held and our new officers are as follows: Laureen Lash as Chapter President, Samyuktha Gumidyala as Vice President, Renee Andreolas as Secretary, Tom Lash as Treasurer, Amy Lyons as Parent Coordinator, Jasmine Deida as Photographer.

Willowbrook Lanes Bowling Party Saturday, March 23, 2013 1pm to 5pm
Dave Partak has a new place for us to bowl this year! So come and see the new place Willowbrook Lanes Bowling Center 735 Plainfield Rd., Willowbrook, IL 60527. Chapter will pay for up to 2 games for paid members. Bowling shoes and drinks on your own. Bowling alley kitchen is closed for remodeling so we are allowed to bring in outside food. So you may want to bring some of your favorite desserts. Everyone is invited for Pizza. The chapter will pay for the pizza. I have created a Facebook event page for the bowling. Please let Laureen know if you will be coming and how many will be bowling. You can call 773-586-4758 or E-mail me at cooston87@yahoo.com or post on facebook.

Fun Day at Brookfield Zoo —Sunday April 21, 2013 11am North Gate
We hope the weather will cooperate so that we can enjoy getting together. Brookfield Zoo 8400 31st Street (1st Avenue and 31st Street) Brookfield, IL 60513. Since it might be difficult to stay together in a big group, let’s meet at 11am at the north gate (main parking lot) before the tunnel. If there are people who have memberships to the zoo and can offer guest passes to others in group that would be great! We will plan to visit the Dolphin Show at 11:30 and then have a picnic lunch following the show. If you don’t want to pack a lunch, the Seven Seas restaurant is right next to the show. There are picnic tables in an accessible area adjacent to the dolphin area. After lunch, people can head off to see all of the fun exhibits the zoo has to offer! Please let Amy Lyons know if you are planning to come so that we know who to be looking out for that day. You can email her at amylyons1@comcast.net or call/text her at 630.217.2597.
Chapter Members News

This is your corner to tell members what has been happening in your life events.

Congratulations to Jasmine Deida and Josh Maluchnik in celebrating their one-year dating anniversary. Congratulations to Serenity Deida for being casted in the Wizard of Oz play. For tickets, visit www.risingstarschicago.com. April 20 – May 5

Tom and Laureen Lash hosted a 12-year-old LP orphan with OI from Latvia for 4 weeks over Christmas. They had a wonderful experience hosting her. They hope to host her again this summer.

Darlene Dawidziak-Herrmann finally got her cast off her legs. Yeah!!

Keep in your prayers and thoughts for the recovery for Eileen Hagan and Elena Winters.

Congratulations to Rosa Escobar on her recent engagement.

Your New Chapter President

As your new Chapter President, I would like to introduce myself by telling you my history in LPA. I have been a member since 1978. I have also held the position of Assistant District Director. As past Assistant Director, I helped develop four new chapters for our District and formulated their chapter borders. At that time, there was only one chapter in the district, the Little Prairie Chapter. Everyone else was a district member. To bring members closer together, additional chapters were developed. I am very happy to be a member of the Windy City Chapter and I will continue to make our chapter the best it can be.

Note From the Treasurer

Once again, a special thank you goes out to Else Strick who made a special holiday donation to our chapter in memory of her daughter, Roseanne.

Our year-end operating balance was $1,145.32 & our C.D. balance was $1,167.00.

All chapter events are subject to budgetary limitations. If you have an idea for a particular event you would like to see, just run the numbers by me & we will see if we could make it work.

Your New Chapter Parent Coordinator

Hi everyone! I am excited to be the new parent coordinator for the chapter. For those of you I have not met along the way, my family lives in Palos Heights. My husband and I have five daughters, ranging in age from 1 to 13, and including Quinn (SED) who is 9, and June (Achon) who is 6. We have been members of LPA since 2004 & I hope that we, as parents, can be good resources for one another. I would welcome any ideas for activities that your families would enjoy. Please contact me with any suggestions you have. Amylyons1@comcast.net or 630.217.2597

District 6 Regional

Our District 6 Regional will be in Bloomington, IL on May 3-5 weekend at the Chateau Bloomington. The room rate is $89 a night and includes a hot continental breakfast. To make your room reservations, please call Jen Smith at 309-665-5699. Jen is available Monday-Friday, 8am-5pm. Regional packets will be sent out by our District Director. There is also a district 6 Regional Facebook page for this event. If you have a Facebook account, you can join the LPA District 6 page for all the updates on events that are in between newsletters and dialog in our District and Chapters.
World Games

The 2013 World Dwarf Games will be August 3rd through August 10th in East Lansing, MI. The World Dwarf Games are an international competition that is held every four years. The Games allow Little People of all ages to compete in Olympic style sporting events at all levels. For more info call 888-598-3222 or visit www.2013worlddwarfgames.org

Scholarships, Conference, Medical Grants and Adoption

It time to start applying for LPA College and Vocational Scholarships once again. Deadline is April 22, 2013. The Kitchen Fund for First Time National Conference Attendees is available to all current LPA members who are first time National Conference Attendees. Deadline is April 22, 2013

See link for all LPA funds and application. http://www.lpaonline.org/scholarships-and-medical-grants

Katie Arnold Executive Director of Sibling Leadership Network

Hi LPA friends-I have had fun doing Sibshops for siblings of LPs at the LPA national conference the past few years. Some of you may be interested in the upcoming National Sibling Leadership Network Conference being held on June 6th in Pittsburgh, PA for adult siblings of people with disabilities, self-advocates, family members, and professionals. I invite you join us to connect with siblings and learn first-hand about the sibling experience, hear presentations from national experts on sibling services and supports, learn about new research initiatives, and participate in sibling and disability advocacy efforts. For more information, visit www.siblingleadership.org.

Painted Turtle Summer Camp

Painted Turtle Summer Camp for children 7-16 years old in California. Some of our chapter members children have attended. Camp Dates is June 14th -19th for Skeletal Dysplasia and Mucopolysaccharidosis children.

See website for info http://www.thepaintedturtle.org/

Chapter Gathering

On May 11th, we will have a Chapter Spring Fling in Hoffman Estates. It will be hosted by Ansay Family so mark your calendar. Look for details in the next newsletter & posts on our District 6 Facebook page.

I am open to anyone wanting to host a potluck house party in their home or anything else this year. I am hoping to have a LPA gathering once a month for the rest of the year. If you want to host we have September, October, November and December/Holiday Party are open. Let me know if you would like to host. You can either phone or e-mail me.

Thanks Laureen
December Holiday