Over twenty years ago the Autism Society of Maine had an idea ± to establish a place where families could come together to meet other families and share information and where children could meet other children just like them whether they were on the Autism Spectrum or a sibling. This idea became a reality through the Family Retreat which has taken place every year since it was established.

I have participated in the Annual Family Retreat for the last fourteen years. Hard to believe ± but true! One thing has never changed over the years ± acceptance. It truly is the one place where a family can bring their child and know that each person at this event knows what life is like raising a child with autism. There are no ugly looks, people staring at you, or explanations needed for your child’s behavior. We have enjoyed watching families enjoy themselves and seeing how grateful they are to have a place where they can bring their child and know they are in good hands.

We have the most dedicated respite providers who keep coming back year after year because they want to be with your child. Imagine that ± respite providers who can’t wait until next year to see your children o o see how they have grown and progressed. While you are relaxing they are keeping your child engaged in crafts, games, swimming, outdoor adventures, and lots of exercise. Some children who attend the Retreat with their families eventually become respite provider themselves. It is inspiring to watch them grow up and provide respite for another child. It gives them pride in what they are able to accomplish. All they need is the opportunity. This is what the weekend is all about.

Each year we pick a theme for the Retreat. In past years we have had cowboys & cowgirls, pirates, pets, jungle life, beach time, and car racing. This year’s theme was Dr. Seuss. The children love getting a little something from ASM, and we love planning the event around a theme and participating in it. I must say, I loved wearing my striped Dr. Seuss hat this year. I was Thing 1.
Greetings! Here we are halfway through summer already. It always amazes me how fast time goes by. It hardly seems possible that I have been president of the ASM Board for nearly a year now. Throughout this past year ASM has gone through many changes, just as we all have. I hope it has been as good a year for all of you as it has been for ASM. Despite the many budget cuts, ASM has been able to continue providing services to the ASD population in Maine, and our year has been a very successful one. This year we added another site to our Walkathon (Farmington) with great success, and our Family Retreat Week-end was well attended. We even had the weather on our side! Right now Camp Summit, our summer camp program, is in session, and we have many new campers as well as some returning ones. We sponsored two movie events this year, one in Farmington and one in Lewiston-Auburn, and hope to be able to do more this coming year. We also have several new Autism Information Specialists on board as well.

Some new things we did this year included having our Autism Information Specialists present workshops in four different counties in Maine during Autism Awareness month. This year we hope to have at least two different presentations a month throughout the state. We also want to expand our summer camp program to other areas of the state, and we have plans for a big conference during Autism Awareness Month with a well-known national speaker. The Board of Directors will be inviting representatives from the various programs and agencies throughout the state to come to our board meetings and present us with information so that we can all be better informed about what is currently available to our ASD population. This will not only give us an opportunity to provide all of you with more information, but will help ASM become better aware of what is still needed so that we can advocate for the services and programs that are lacking. We welcome all of you to contact us if you have information to provide us about your program or agency or if you have concerns about the lack of services and programs in your area.

So change, although difficult, can result in good outcomes. As summer ends and fall begins, many of our children will be heading back to school. That will mean changes in routines and schedules for many, and our hope is that it will be an easier transition for all of you than the one last year. This summer has certainly brought us better weather and more time to enjoy the longer days and warmer weather. So, as summer comes to an end, perhaps it will help us “weather” the transition back to school. ASM will be working hard to make sure that all the budget cuts will have as little effect as possible on the quality and quantity of services available for individuals with ASD. We ask for your support in this area and need to hear from each family and individual if there has been a reduction in either the quality or availability of services that are needed. Please contact our office by email or by phone to let us know.

In the meantime, enjoy the good weather, natural beauty, and “fun in the sun” that Maine offers us this time of year,

Lynda Mazzola, President
ASM Board of Directors
Over the years we've had entertainment from comedians, magicians, puppeteers, balloon animal artists, and caricaturists to this year's Mystic Folk Opera. Kristen and Nathan, a husband and wife duet, provided us with beautiful songs on Friday night as families checked in. Entertainment for the children this year was a magician and his bunny Oreo.

As I reflected on past Retreats, a couple memorable “entertaining moments” stuck out in my mind. The first was Gary Crocker. For those of you who are not familiar with him, Gary Crocker is a Maine humorist accent and all. He locked himself out of his dorm room coming back from his shower wrapped only in a towel. His wife had left her key in the room. Needless to say, every time I see him now I ask, “Where’s your towel?” His performance that night provided many, many laughs to families that really need more laughter in their lives. The second moment was when we had a speaker from the Autism Society National come to the Retreat. He also locked himself out of his room and thought it would be ok to push the door in and break the entire framework around it. Those Texans are tough! He later gave an inspiring speech - speaking as a dad of a child with autism as well as a representative from the national organization.

Most families come back to the Retreat year after year. For some this is the only break they get knowing that their child is getting great care and having fun. For others their child has a difficult time sleeping in an unfamiliar bed, dealing with unfamiliar food, and meeting new people. They are not sure what to expect and are not ready for these changes. I have to admit that the overnight Retreat is not for all families. My own family has tried to bring our son to the Retreat twice in the past, and it did not work out. Even if a child may not be able to stay overnight, families can still come for the day on Saturday. You have to start somewhere. Why not start in a place where there is acceptance? You will meet families that will encourage you to continue on. You will learn new information and have some down time to be with your significant other. Maybe you’ll simply want to sit under a tree, read that book you haven’t opened yet, or take a walk along the ocean shore.

Each year I get closer to people who return to the Retreat. I can name each child and family. A child will stand at the registration table and ask, “Remember me?” How could I forget! Some families move on and away from attending the Retreat. Their children are grown, maybe going to college, maybe working, maybe living their own independent lives. But, families are always welcome to attend the Retreat no matter the age of their children. After all, even when they are all grown up, they are still our children. This article is a recognition of all the families who have come to the Family Retreat over the past twenty years. You make it worthwhile coming to work every day. I feel honored to know your family and your children.
2010 Ride for Autism: Break the Cycle

Please join us for the 4th Annual Ride for Autism. We have two different routes, a 25 mile and a 50 mile ride. Both rides offer a beautiful scenic view at a slower pace. If you can't ride the 25 or 50 mile routes just ride what you can. Bring the family and enjoy a BBQ at noon with activities for the kids like a bouncey house. Bring a lawn chair and enjoy some good entertainment. This event will take place at the Kennebunkport Conservation Trust Building on Gravely Brook Road, Kennebunkport. Register online at www.firstgiving.com/ASMMaine

25 mile ride starts at 9:00 am
50 mile ride starts at 8:00 am
FMI; call 1-800-273-5200

Please join the Autism Society of Maine for our
Annual Meeting
September 24th, 2010
Senator Inn
Augusta, Me
6:00 pm to 8:30 pm

Each year ASM invites its membership to celebrate our year's accomplishments. It's a time to say goodbye to some board members and welcome new ones. A light dinner will be provided at 6:00 pm. The annual meeting and presentation of awards starts at 7 pm. Please RSVP for this event at 1-800-273-5200.

The Autism Society of Maine is pleased to announce that Lee Grossman, CEO from National Autism Society will be the guest speaker.

Toy Story 3 Movie Event

The Lewiston/Auburn Rotary International District 7790 sponsored a movie event that was offered free of cost to families of children with autism. The movie theater was closed to the general public and made as sensory friendly as possible by turning the volume down, removing advertisements, and leaving aisle lights on. These adjustments, as well as being in an accepting environment, helped make a nice time out for the whole family!

“Your generosity is a blessing to our family; we generally don't adventure to the movies but to give us the opportunity to meet families like ours, knowing we are not alone and a morning of laughs...priceless!”

“This was perfect for our family. Our kids love Toy Story, we were going to wait for DVD, but this made a movie event possible. Thank you for the memories!”
Friends Raise Money for Autism!

Chantal Oullette is one of a set of triplets; her sister Renee, has autism. Sally Wright is their friend and neighbor. In April, which is Autism Awareness Month, the girls sold bracelets, magnets, and lapel pins to support the Autism cause as well as explain what autism is to their classmates. They purchased the items with allowance money and donated the proceeds to the Autism Society of Maine.

Collection of Legos Donated

Jim Taddeo was diagnosed with Asperger’s Disorder when he was 14 years old and at 20 years old he is now a Junior at Keene State College, majoring in political science. He is on the Dean’s list every term. Now that he is grown, Tim wishes to share his lego collection with others on the autism spectrum in hopes that they may enjoy them as much as he did.

Red Sox Fan

by Gary Hawkins
Staff Writer for the Kennebec Journal

Jackson Hickey, an 11-year-old from West Gardiner was on center stage on disability awareness night prior to Boston’s game against Tampa Bay on June 28. Jackson’s mother, Jayne, entered her son’s name into a contest promoted by Exceptional Parents Magazine and got a response within 24 hours.

“I filled out (a form) and I saw the Red Sox were an option,” she said. “I said ‘I’d really like to make his dream come true.’”

The magazine honors a special family each year and selected the Hickeys for their compelling story.

The trip to Fenway will be Jackson’s first. He was born with Down Syndrome and diagnosed with autism at age 5. Like the rest of his family, he’s an avid Red Sox fan and reacted with joy when he heard of his trip to the game about a month ago.

“The night we told him about it he went and got his Red Sox shoes and his hat,” Jayne said.

The game will also serve as a reunion of sorts for the family. Jackson’s dad, David, is a colonel in the Air Force and deployed at the Pentagon. He plans to fly up for the game. Oldest son Kyle, a recent Gardiner Area High School graduate headed for Norwich University on an ROTC scholarship, will attend as will Emma, who just graduated from the seventh grade.

“I can count on one hand the last two years when all five of us have done something together,” Jayne said.
Getting the Wind Knocked Out of My Sail
by Deborah Lipsky

During this latest heat wave I decided to take a break from writing my book and spend some time at the nearby lake. A while back I had bought this really neat multi-water sport craft on clearance at the sporting goods store. The photo on the package looked awesome with this twiggy Malibu Barbie model right out of Cosmopolitan waving to her friends on the beach with this craft in its 4 foot carrying case neatly slung over her shoulder. I figured if a stick figure could carry this then it couldn’t be too heavy for a middle aged woman with joint problems like me. The sides of the package had 4 really cool photos showing its multi uses as a kayak, sailboat, being towed behind a speed boat, and a tanned Ken windsurfing waving to Malibu Barbie on the beach. The best part was that it was inflatable so one of its main features was that it could go anywhere. Based on the packaging I couldn’t resist. After all, how hard could windsurfing be anyway when it looked as effortless as Ken and Barbie made it seem?

Eager to get to the lake I took the contents out of the package for assembly. The one page instructional sheet needed a mechanical engineer to decipher its hieroglyphics. Still optimistic, I figured I could put it together based on the package photos. The first step was to use the foot pump to blow up the inflatable base. After what seemed like an eternity of foot pumping this thing expanded into a 6 foot long, 4 feet wide blob. It was very cumbersome as I tried to wrestle it into the back of my pickup. Forgetting about the hard plastic keels I misjudged the clearance of the tailgate as I heaved the thing up causing the rubber nose to smack the truck and with the spring of a super ball bounce itself with me still attached to the “easy carry handles” to the pavement 4 feet away. After spending $250.00 I wasn’t easily deterred by this set back [more like a fling back] so I assembled the mast and sail. The sail measured 12 feet in length and 6 feet wide and hung out too far from my 6 foot bed so ingeniously I finagled it so the mast went through the cap and truck’s rear window and out the right front window so that I had 3 feet sticking out the back and 3 feet sticking out the passenger window.

The public boat landing where I go has a small beach beside it and that day there were about 8 families swimming there. As I pulled up to the the boat ramp in my pickup truck that looked like it was impaled by a gigantic knitting needle wrapped in white and blue striped nylon, my “toy” which was an usual sight became the focus of their attention. It seems to be an unwritten social rule of the non autistic world that if you unload a watercraft of any sort at a public landing it is expected that you are a seasoned pro in that sport. Not wanting to break that rule I tried to look “cool” as I got all the gear ready for launch. I was all set up for windsurfing as I hopped on and paddled out about 100 feet. I didn’t have any waterproof sunscreen so I used my facial moisture with a 15 SPF protection rating before I left the house. The way I saw it was that I wasn’t planning on getting wet so I wouldn’t have to worry about it washing off.

Since all eyes were on me I wanted to show off. The first clue of me not knowing what I was doing was that I forgot you need wind to windsurf and it was dead calm. I didn’t want to look like a dweeb and since the mast pivots 360 degrees I decided to lay it flat on the raft and practice paddling techniques as if that was my intent all along. Not knowing the optional kayak seat was sold separately it was difficult trying to paddle a 4 foot wide inflatable raft but I did it for an hour on my knees. Finally I felt confident enough to practice standing up to get a feel for the balance needed for windsurfing. It was about .003 seconds after attempting to stand up that I realized both of my legs had turned into 2 bowls of pudding. It didn’t occur to me at the moment that with torn ligaments in both knees I lacked the stability and balance to maintain an upright position in that circumstance. I went crashing down as hard as the Hindenburg but unlike the zeppelin that burst into flames I bounced off the rubber and became airborne only
to do the most ungraceful belly flop in history right into
the water a few arm’s lengths away from the raft.

My sunglasses flew off my face and instantly turned
into a 10 pound rock elusively thwarting every underwater
swipe of my hands trying to grab them. Today they are
still probably smugly perched on a submerged log 100 feet
on the bottom of the lake. I am not a swimmer but I can
dog paddle. Spotting my ball cap bobbing upright about
10 feet away I looked like a golden retriever as I retrieved
my hat in my mouth and then paddled back to the raft
now gracefully drifting further and further away from
my grasp by the current. The easy part was reaching the
raft; climbing on would prove to be the challenge. Each
time I threw myself up over the bow the water dripping
from my bathing suit top and swim trunks turned
the vinyl into a slip and slide. I felt like an animal
because with every attempt to climb on I looked like an
overweight harbor seal trying to get on a pile of rocks and
with each plunge back into the water I appeared more
like a penguin sliding down an iceberg overhang belly
first into the water. I was pretty confident at this point
that my onshore audience viewed me another type of
animal... more of a donkey's behind.

Eventually I did manage to stay on top of the raft,
but now my entire sail was submerged a few inches under
the water. I tried lifting the sail up, but it was if the lady
of the lake had a death grip on it and it refused to budge.
I was becoming really frustrated and angry at this point
so I laid down on my belly dangling my legs over the
edge in hopes of gaining some lifting leverage. During
this retrieval process I didn’t realize in all my thrashing
and limb flailing that my foot was up against and rubbing
the one and only valve stem (the only entrance and exit
point to inflate or deflate the raft). After an epic struggle
of woman versus nature I felt this wave (no pun intended)
of victory as the sail began to rise as simultaneously a stiff
breeze kicked up. I couldn’t help but notice the stream
of bubbles emanating from the stern (rear) of the raft
but in all the elation over my recent victory all I could
jokingly envision was that my craft was farting. Just as
the mast and sail were halfway righted a sudden gust
of wind from an approaching storm cloud grabbed
the sail while I was still attached to it and propelled it
forward and up so for a flash of a second I was actually
standing up on the raft. Instantly I noticed that the raft
had become spongy because it was in fact leaking air
and not farting, making it impossible to maintain the
textbook perfect windsurfing poses demonstrated on the
box by Malibu Ken. By now it was painfully obvious that
I was trapped on a sinking ship (again no pun intended).
Having no idea how to steer this deflating over rated air
mattress, it began to act like a bucking bronco spinning
in circles then the front end lifting off the water followed
by the back end. I was being whipped about like a rag
doll. It pretty near convinced me that my multi-sport
watercraft was in fact possessed by a demon and my only
salvation lie in an exorcism. I yelled out, “I rebuke you
demon of the multi-sport aqua-glide” but it didn’t help.
Then without warning the wind shifted directions ripping
the mast out of its base literally sending the sail and
me flying. Out of principle I didn’t let go because I
harbored delusional thoughts that somehow I could still
regain control along with a shred of dignity from this
unfortunate series of events.

The wind gusts were in excess of 20mph. I was
hanging on for dear life to the boom (rigid cross brace of
the sail that helps you move the sail) when the watercraft
demonstrated yet another talent not shown on the box.....
it became a speed boat and now I was water skiing. As
this demon possessed evil air mattress sped across the
lake I was attempting to slow it down by throwing my
weight backwards. That was as effective as trying to
stop a moving vehicle by holding on to its bumper. By
now the wind was so fierce and because I didn’t have a
script for this (remember it was dead calm when I first
started) my only logical action plan was to hang on and
master the art of windsurfing despite the odds. To add
to my humiliation there was a growing crowd of people
onshore pointing in my direction. I quickly scanned the
lake hoping they were looking at someone other than me,
but alas I was their freak show. I never prayed so hard in
my life for the Loch Ness Monster to be real and for it
to devour me in that instant.

In all the commotion I didn’t realize the water was
getting shallow as the raft zoomed towards shore. The
keel caught on a huge underwater rock abruptly stopping
this demonic beast. It literally knocked the wind out of
the sail sending me tumbling like a tumble weed onto
the boat ramp and depositing the mast and sail in the tree
grove along the edge of the shoreline. As I was gasping
for air a crowd gathered around me asking if I was hurt.
I was so sunburned from head to toe that you could have
mistaken me for a boiled lobster. I was totally mortified
at how my “coolness” was decimated by this spectacle
so in a low voice I said, “I’m OK, I just got the wind
knocked out of my sail.”
Dr. Paula Kluth

“You’re Going To Love This Kid”: Educating Students with Autism In Inclusive Schools

Save this Date
April 28, 2011
Location: TBA

Dr. Paula Kluth is a consultant, teacher, author, advocate, and independent scholar who works with teachers and families to provide inclusive opportunities for students with disabilities and to create more responsive and engaging schooling experiences for all learners. Paula is a former special educator who has served as a classroom teacher and inclusion facilitator. Her professional interests include differentiating instruction and inclusive schooling.

She is the author or co-author of nine books including You're Going to Love This Kid: Teaching Students with Autism in Inclusive Classrooms; Access to Academics: Critical Approaches to Inclusive Curriculum, Instruction, and Policy, A Land We Can Share: Teaching Literacy

Autism Information Specialist Program

The Autism Society of Maine (ASM) wants to train more people to become Autism Information Specialists (AIS). AIS contract with ASM for individual assignments. These assignments vary from talking with families as a support person to attending educational (IEP) or vocational (PCP) planning meetings to giving public presentations. They provide valuable resource information to individuals, families, service providers, employers, schools, and agencies across the State. They foster understanding, empathy, and compassion for individuals with Autism Spectrum Disorder (ASD). They are knowledgeable and responsive to the needs of those involved in the lives of people with ASD. Currently we have AIS in the following locations:

- Augusta
- Cape Elizabeth
- Farmington
- Presque Isle
- Auburn
- Dexter
- Georgetown
- Scarborough
- Bangor
- Edmunds
- Kennebunk
- Sidney
- Brewer
- Ellsworth
- New
- Sharon
- Vassalboro
- Bridgton
- Fairfield
- Portland

Our goal is to have an AIS in every county in the State. We are looking to train people from the following counties:

- Knox
- Piscataquis
- Lincoln
- Southern Aroostook
- Northern Penobscot
- Waldo

If you are interested in becoming a part of this program and want to know more about it, please call Darlene Lepoff at 1-800-273-5200.

Upcoming Autism Workshops presented by AIS:

- Caribou September 20, 2010 6:00-8:00
- Waterville October 13, 2010 5:30-8:00
- Bridgton October 13, 2010 6:00-8:00

For more information about these free workshops check our website or call 1-800-273-5200.
Portland Pirates Offer Family Night

The Portland Pirates and the Autism Society of Maine will be offering a family night for families with children with autism. There will be special room available for families if your child needs some quiet time. We are hoping to have special shirts worn by the players to auction off to raise money for ASM.

Please join us in March 2011 for Autism Awareness Night!

Candidate’s Forum

**When:** September 22nd at 12:00 noon

**Where:** Governor Hill Mansion, 136 State Street, Augusta

**Confirmed:** Elliot Cutler, Paul LePage(?) and Libby Mitchell

**Sponsored by:** The Disability Rights Center with Maine Develop mental Disabilities Council, Speaking Up For Us, Maine Parent Federation, Southern Maine Parent Awareness, Autism Society of Maine, Helping Hands of Maine, Gear Parent Network, Learning Disabilities Association of Maine, National Alliance for the Mentally Ill of Maine, Adoptive and Foster Families of Maine and Support Affiliation with THRIVE Legislative Advocacy Workshop for Families

You may purchase these and more items on the ASM website at: [https://www.asmonline.org:4441/productcart/pc/home.asp](https://www.asmonline.org:4441/productcart/pc/home.asp) or by calling us at 1-800-273-5200.

- **SALE!**
  - Autism Awareness Lapel Pin $5.25
  - Autism Awareness Keychain $5.25
  - Autism Awareness Magnet 8” x 3.5” $5.25
  - Mini Magnet 2” x 4” $3.25

- **Puzzle Pins (boy or girl)** $14.25
- **“Safe and Sound” decal for your window** $3.25
- **Silver-tone stretch bracelet** $8.25
- **Guardian Angel Pin** $8.25

The Portland Pirates and the Autism Society of Maine will be offering a family night for families with children with autism. There will be special room available for families if your child needs some quiet time. We are hoping to have special shirts worn by the players to auction off to raise money for ASM.

Please join us in March 2011 for Autism Awareness Night!

**When:** September 22nd at 9:30-11:30

**Where:** Governor Hill Mansion, 136 State Street, Augusta

The Candidate’s Forum will be preceded by a Legislative Advocacy workshop for families of children with disabilities or special healthcare needs. The workshop is sponsored by the Maine Alliance of Family Organizations (MAFO) and is being offered free of charge. Lunch will be provided.

Pre-registration is required. For more information about the workshop, contact Maine Parent Federation (MPF) at 1-800-870-7746 or email parentconnect@mpf.org
Welcome to the Autism Society of Maine Library!  
http://www.asmonline.org/library.asp

The lending library is located at the ASM office at 72B Main Street in Winthrop and open during operating hours Monday - Friday, 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. The library listing is also available online. A search can be made by title, author, keyword or if you just want to browse, choose a media type (book, video, etc.) and scroll. If a page that says “error” comes up, ignore and go back to previous page and make a different entry. Library materials can be borrowed two items at a time for two weeks (not including mailing time) and can be renewed providing no one else has requested them. Return postage is included. If you cannot visit the library in person and need help choosing material or have questions about the library, e-mail Susan at library@asmonline.org or call by phone at 1-800-273-5200.

Library donations of up-to-date materials are always welcome as well as suggestions for our wish list.

Common Scents: Adventures with Autism and Chemical Sensitivity  
by Kate Goldfield  
Author, Kate Goldfield of Maine has Asperger’s Syndrome and to complicate matters has “Multiple Chemical Sensitivity” (MCS). She has reactions to fragrances and chemicals of all kinds and writes of her experiences living in eight cities over two years, searching for housing compatible with her needs.

Socially Curious and Curiously Social  
by Michelle Garcia Winner & Pamela Crooke  
A Social Thinking Guidebook for Teens & Young Adults with Asperger’s, ADHD, PDD-NOS, NVLD, or other Murky Undiagnosed Social Learning Issues

More Than a Sum of Diagnostic Differences  
by Laurel Falvo  
Information about what autism is, and how we can understand, appreciate, and interact more effectively with people diagnosed with various forms of autism.

Asperger Syndrome: Transition to College and Work  
(DVD)  
This program includes two sections: How to get ready for college and how to prepare to go from high school or college to the workplace. For high school age and above.

Temple Grandin (DVD)  
Starring Claire Danes  
The doctor who diagnosed Grandin at age 4 said she’d never talk and would have to be institutionalized. Only through the dogged efforts of her mother (Julia Ormond), who was told that “lack of bonding” with her child might have caused the autism, did Grandin learn to speak; to go to high school, college, and grad school; and to become a highly productive scientist, enduring the cruel taunts of her classmates and the resistance of many of the adults in her life.

Why Do they Do That?  
(DVD)  
by Laurel A. Falvo  
Answers to Questions You Might Have About People with Autism and Asperger Syndrome

Asperger Syndrome: Success in the Mainstream Classroom  
(DVD)  
Proven techniques teachers can use to create a positive learning experience for students with Asperger Syndrome in the mainstream environment.

The Social Response Pyramid Kit  
by Laurel A. Falvo  
Instructional DVD (60 minutes of instruction & videotaped Sample discussion) and Workbook.  
Website: http://www.thegraycenter.org/social-response-pyramid

Asperger Syndrome for Dad: Becoming An Even Better Father To Your Child With AS  
Ten secrets to being the dad your child with AS wants and needs, illustrated with interviews, videos and photos from the experiences of a young man with AS. For parents, grandparents and other caregivers. (DVD or VHS).

Manners for the Real World: Basic Social Skills  
(DVD or VHS)  
A guide to the right manners and behaviors in common social situations, with straightforward instructions and clear demonstrations. Age: Upper elementary school through adult.

The Horse Boy  
(DVD) (book and audio book on cd also available)  
True story follows one Texas couple and their autistic son as they trek on horseback through Outer Mongolia in an attempt to find healing for him. Part travel adventure, part insight into shamanic healing and part intimate look at the autistic mind in telling one family’s extraordinary story.
Ways to Give

There are many ways to give to the Autism Society of Maine. We rely on donations and fundraisers to help cover the cost of our programs and activities that bring awareness and community to individuals and families impacted by ASD. Here’s how you can help:

- Donate to us during our first Autism Society of Maine Fall Annual Appeal. Watch your mail for a chance to give during this fundraising season!
- General donations may also be made anytime of the year online using our secure donation forms (or you can download and print our PDF forms) at:
  http://www.asmonline.org/involved_donations.asp
- Memorial donations to the Society in memory of a friend or loved-one may also be made at:
  http://www.asmonline.org/involved_donations.asp
- Donations through Network For Good may be made at:
- Donations via Facebook, powered by the Network for Good, may be made at:
  http://apps.facebook.com/causes/238491/?m=3f1cca43
- Donations through United Way can be directed to the Autism Society of Maine. For more information, visit:
  http://www.asmonline.org/involved_donations_united_way.asp
- Host a fundraiser with proceeds going to ASM. Some of the past and current fundraisers have included: Avon, Pampered Chef parties, Mary Kay parties, bake sales at events, selling autism awareness items at conferences or craft events, selling Christmas wreaths, selling T-shirts. If any of these fundraiser interests please call us for more information.

For other ways to contribute, become a volunteer or to become a member contact us at:
http://www.asmonline.org

Donations to the Autism Society of Maine are tax-deductible.

Please consider us as you plan your end-of-year giving.
Support our Services: Give to the Autism Society of Maine!

The Autism Society of Maine is a statewide nonprofit organization that for over 32 years has served Maine individuals with autism and their families, professionals, and communities by providing education, advocacy, referrals, and resource development. We rely on donations and fundraisers to help cover the cost of our programs and activities that bring awareness and community to individuals and families affected by ASD. Here’s how you can help:

- General donations may also be made anytime of the year online using our secure donation forms (or you can download and print our PDF forms) at: http://www.asmonline.org/involved_donations.asp
- Memorial donations to the Society in memory of a friend or loved-one may also be made at: http://www.asmonline.org/involved_donations.asp
- Donations through Network For Good may be made at: https://www.networkforgood.org/donation/ExpressDonation.aspx?ORGID2=010407346
- Donations via Facebook, powered by the Network for Good, may be made at: http://apps.facebook.com/causes/238491?m=3f1cca43
- Donations through United Way can be directed to the Autism Society of Maine. For more information, visit: http://www.asmonline.org/involved_donations_united_way.asp
- Host a fundraiser with proceeds going to ASM. Some of the past and current fundraisers have included: Avon, Pampered Chef parties, Mary Kay parties, bake sales at events, selling autism awareness items at conferences or craft events, selling holiday wreaths, selling T-shirts. If any of these fundraisers interest you, please call us for more information.

For other ways to contribute, contact us at asm@asmonline.org. Thank you for supporting our mission!

Call us at: 1-800-273-5200 or visit us online at www.asmonline.org

Become a Member!

The Autism Society of Maine invites you to join families and professionals in the pursuit of knowledge about autism spectrum disorders, treatments and support for Maine children and adults with autism.

You may register online at: www.asmonline.org/involved_joinasm.asp or call ASM at 1800-273-5200