

ASFV Newsletter



The Autism Society of the Fox Valley

Message from the President

Hello Everyone!

WOW—what a year! ASFV is slowly getting back in the swing of things! During the past year we have taken time to work on the Autism Friendly Business Program, answer emails and phone calls, and hold virtual autism trainings. One very popular virtual event is the monthly trivia nights. As we begin to think about planning in-person social events, we are mindful of everyone's varying comfort levels. All attendance at events should be based on your comfort level of participation.

Monkey Joe's is back the first Saturday of April!! They will open exclusively from 9-10 for ASFV. We also have a family bowling outing planned for April 25th from 1-3. This is an ASFV members only event. Registration will be sent soon.

Thank you to all of you who have continued to keep your membership current during this past year. To celebrate Autism Awareness and Acceptance Month, ASFV is holding a membership drive. All renewed and new memberships will be entered into a drawing for

one of our new design T-shirts and a \$50.00 gift card. The drawing will be held April 30th. You can register online at:

<https://76148.blackbaudhosting.com/76148/Annual-Membership-Program>

Good Luck!

We are so excited to announce the latest Autism Friendly Businesses: Clipper Chaos and Mill City Church.

ASFV is also excited to announce our major fundraising golf outing is back on June 5th at Crystal Springs in Seymour. If you would like to put together a foursome, Bob Olson's contact information is within the outing flyer. We will need silent auction items and are always grateful for hole sponsors. Please consider donating to ASFV to keep our social events active.

We are looking forward to rescheduling Boards and Blades, Tundra Lodge, Skater's Edge and much more!!!

Happy Autism Awareness, Acceptance and Inclusion Month!!!

Diane Nackers, ASFV President



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Please Keep Contact Information Up to Date

Check out our website: autismfoxvalley.org

General information questions: info@autismfoxvalley.org

All social outings: asfvevents@autismfoxvalley.org

Hispanic support group: asfvespanol@autismfoxvalley.org

ALL ASFV Social Outings Will Be Back Soon Keep Your Contact Info Up to Date

Hanging Out Social Outings

ASFV attempts to actively engage kids 7-12 years old in a variety of social opportunities. The children can participate in a variety of outings. The goals of these outings are to foster socialization, experiences, and fun. All outings are supervised by the social group facilitators. If you would like more information or would like to be placed on the email list, contact: asfvevents@autismfoxvalley.org

Teen Group Outings

ASFV holds social opportunities for teens 13-19 years old. These outings are held in a wide variety of locations. The teens should demonstrate a level of independence so they can participate in community outings without parental supervision. The teens are supervised by an ASFV board member. If you would like more information or would like to be placed on the email list, contact: asfvevents@autismfoxvalley.org

The A-Team—Adult Social Outings

A Social Networking Group for Adults with Autism Spectrum Disorder. If you are an adult in your 20's AND want to get out and get social.....this group may be for you. All outings are planned based on feedback from the attendees.

If you have any questions, please contact asfvevents@autismfoxvalley.org



ASFV is a 501(c)3 non-profit organization run by an all volunteer board. Your donations make every outing happen!

Parent Support Group Meeting

Do you need to talk, or just need a break? Please join us the first Sunday of each month, from 6:00-8:00 pm for ASFV's monthly Parent Support Group meeting.



Where: 211 E Franklin St. in downtown Appleton (just two blocks west of City Park) in the building that houses Soar Fox Cites Inc. The doors will be locked, but there is a doorbell and someone will let you in. Refreshments will be provided.

Parents and other caregivers have the opportunity to get together in a relaxed, informal atmosphere to talk about everything from your personal experiences to available resources and general education about autism.

For more information: info@autismfoxvalley.org.

Grupo de Reunión de Ayuda para Familiade Autismo

Es un grupo diseñado **para familias Hispánas** quienes aman a alguien en el espectro autista. Cada reunión ofrecerá ayuda, recursos e información para familias en español. Juntos aprenderemos y nos ayudaremos con problemas que temenos que enfrentar en el día a día.

Si desea saber más acerca de la Sociedad de Autismo de Fox Valley

- Por favor visite:
www.autismfoxvalley.org
- Preguntas en general:
920-558-4602 o al 888-428-8476



Monkey Joe's Playdate—April 3, May 1st, June 5th

Monkey Joe's and ASFV offer a once a month play time open exclusively for families with a child on the spectrum. This event is free for all members. All non-members pay only \$5.00 per family. It's a chance for the kids to play while parents network. Open exclusively from 9-10 am!!

An ASFV board member is on site to answer questions about our affiliate or offer support. The new owners are making GREAT changes! Come check it out!!

1800 N. Casaloma Appleton, WI 54913 Phone: (920) 954-5437



ASFV Members Only Family Bowling Outing April 25th

April Members Only Family Bowling Outing

WHO: All social groups and ASFV member families are welcome. If the teens or young adults want to have their own lanes to increase socialization, that can be arranged.

UPDATE MEMBERSHIP and be entered into a drawing for a provided free t-shirt and a \$50 gift card:

<https://76blackbaudhosting.com/76148/Annual-Membership-Program148>.

COST: Free but any additional food choices or video games will be on your own. Our new t-shirts will be for sale at this event. \$15.00 each in white/black/purple

WHEN: April 25th

TIME: 1 to 3pm

WHERE: Classic Lanes, 934 Byrd Ave
Neenah, WI 54956

WHAT: Unlimited bowling, shoes, pitchers of soda/water

"ASFV is excited to offer this family outing. We understand there is a wide range of comfort levels related to Covid-19 and the precautions needed to keep everyone safe and healthy. All ASFV volunteers will be wearing masks and using hand sanitizer. We would ask that all adults wear a mask to ensure the safety of everyone. ASFV is not responsible if someone catches the virus. You will be bowling at your own risk. "

A Google registration link: <https://forms.gle/woFzYn6PTwqz55dk8>



Thank You for the Generous Donations

The Autism Society of the Fox Valley is run by an all volunteer board. All donations received stay within our 5 county service area. We use those donations solely to support our community based social outings, community partnerships, and scholarship programs. Thank you for your continued support during the past year. We are so excited to be able to get our programs up and running again.

For those new to this newsletter, ASFV has supported family outings to local bowling alleys, movie theaters, Timber Rattler games, and many more. Our community partnerships include the Building for Kids, the adult programming at the CP Center in Kimberly, and Monkey Joe's.

The generosity is greatly appreciated from the New London High School BEST Club, Karen Yahle, Sargento, and multiple donors who used the Network for Good and United Way donation options.



Inform, Influence, Innovate Together

Virtual Autism Conference

April 21st – 24th, 2021



Get access to the keynote speakers, breakout sessions, and exhibitors you have known through our live conferences, but from the comfort and safety of your own home. The combined conference will feature more than 29 cutting-edge topics and will include live and on-demand educational and resource-gathering opportunities that will be available to you April 21st—24th and at your leisure for up to six months after the conference dates.

To learn more about the conference:

<https://www.autismgreaterwi.org/inform-influence-innovate-together-virtual-autism-conference/>

4 Keynote Speakers:

Lydia X. Z. Brown

Peter Vermeulen

McAlister Greiner Huynh

Temple Grandin—Friday the 23rd

Wale and Audrey Elegbede

PLUS 29 Break out sessions!!!

 **AUTISM SOCIETY**
Improving the Lives of All Affected by Autism
Greater Wisconsin

Connie Pitt Conference Scholarships

3 Still available!!

The Autism Society of the Fox Valley offers full conference registrations to the Autism Society of Greater Wisconsin Annual Conference. Families, educators and therapists may apply for a free conference registration. You must be a member of ASFV and live or teach in the Fox Valley area to be considered.



If you would like to apply, please send an email (just a few paragraphs) about how the scholarship will help you and your family or, if you are a therapist or teacher, how it will help the students you support. Send the email to: info@autismfoxvalley.org and in the subject line write "ASGW Conference Scholarship".

You may also send a written request to ASFV Scholarships, PO Box 266 Little Chute, WI 54140.

This annual scholarship is to honor Connie Pitt, a local educator who died unexpectedly several years ago. Connie was a dedicated teacher who taught students with autism.

Safety Scholarships Available



The Autism Society of the Fox Valley offers three (3) safety scholarships—up to \$250 each. Families who need assistance purchasing additional locks, alarms, fence gates, or anything to help ensure safety measures can be taken for your child, can apply.

Just send a short letter explaining what your needs are and the expense you expect to incur. The ASFV board will vote on your request at the next board meeting. You will then be notified via

email or mail. If your scholarship is approved, provide a receipt and you will be reimbursed for up to \$250. You must be a member of the Autism Society of the Fox Valley to be considered.

Send the email to: info@autismfoxvalley.org and in the subject line write "ASFV Safety Scholarship".

You may also send a letter to ASFV, PO Box 266 Little Chute, WI 54140.



Save the Date—14th Annual ASFV Night at the Timber Rattlers

What:

When: August 14, 2021

Where: Timber Rattlers Stadium, Appleton



The promotional night features Seinfeld Night w/ Themed Mug Giveaway and Steve Hytner 'Kenny Bania' Appearance.

Tickets: \$5.00 each—no limit. To reserve your tickets please send a check made out to ASFV to Steve Brennan , 625 S Keller Park Dr. Appleton 54914

Postcards will be mailed with all the information needed to reserve your ticket. We are still working on the details.

Come join us and see all the new changes to the stadium!!

Go Valley Kids

<https://govalleykids.com/>

The Best Fox Valley Parks for Spring
(with the Rubber Ground)

1. City Park, Appleton
2. Dierks Park, Appleton
3. Erb Park, Appleton
4. Jones Park, Appleton
5. Memorial Park, Appleton
6. Lions Park, Grand Chute
7. Pierce Park, Appleton
8. Riverside Park, Neenah
9. Town Center Park, Grand Chute
10. Van Lieshout Park, Little Chute
11. Washington Park, Neenah



Autism Friendly Communities Program Is HERE!!!

The Autism Society envisions that individuals and families living with autism are able to maximize their quality of life, are treated with the highest level of dignity, and live in a society in which their talents and skills are appreciated and valued. Quality of life indicators, such as the opportunity for community involvement and the freedom to spend time in a meaningful way, are essential aspects of the human experience.

The Autism Society of Greater Wisconsin is implementing the Autism Friendly Communities Initiative to ensure that families affected by autism feel included and welcomed at community activities and events. The Autism Friendly Communities Initiative's overall goal is to increase the quality of life for those affected by autism by improving community understanding of autism and improving access to inclusive experiences, programs, and events.

What does it mean to be Autism Friendly?

As an Autism Friendly Communities partner, you recognize that individuals with autism experience the world differently and commit to evaluating and adapting your business or organization in several ways:

- Training staff and volunteers to understand autism and strategies to support individuals and families affected by autism.
- Assessing and making modifications to environment, programs, or procedures.
- Developing visual supports as applicable.
- Implementing inclusive hiring practices.
- Committing to quality improvement.

How are partners recognized as Autism Friendly?

As an Autism Friendly Communities partner you can expect:

- An Autism Friendly Window Decal to display
- An Autism Friendly Certificate to display
- Recognition on Autism Society of Greater Wisconsin social media accounts
- Recognition on the Autism Society of Greater Wisconsin website

<https://www.autismgreaterwi.org/autism-friendly-communities/>

Contact Kirsten Cooper at kcooper@autismgreaterwi.org or 920-215-3303 to start the conversation on how you can become an Autism Friendly Communities partner.



Join friends and enjoy a great day of golf & festivities for ASFV's 16th Annual Golf Outing!

When? Saturday, June 5, 2021

8:00am Registration, Bloody Marys, donuts
warm-up 9:00am start

Where? Crystal Springs Golf Course,

N8055 French Road, Seymour, WI

Fees? \$85.00 per player includes greens fees,
golf cart, free beer & soda in the clubhouse
lunch, awards

Format? Scramble ...

(Team Captain)

Player 1

Email Address

Player 2

Email Address

Player 3

Email Address

Player 4

Email Address

Company Name

Hole Sponsorship - includes signage with company logo _____ \$250

Total due: \$ _____ Payment form: Check # _____

Fill out all info and include with payment. Checks should be written to "ASFV" and mailed to:
Bob Olson (ASFV Golf Outing Chairperson)
1216 Lewis St, Little Chute WI 54140

QUESTIONS? Email Bob Olson at bob.olson1976@gmail.com or phone (920) 788-5298

Create your own foursome—ask your friends, families or colleagues to golf with you or fill in your name and the golf committee will place you on a team

- Margaritas for sale!
- Competitions and hole events
- 50/50 Raffle and Silent Auction
- Hole Sponsorships \$250 and up
- ASFV is a 501 (c)(3) non-profit organization

WIN GREAT PRIZES!

Date of Application _____

Name _____ Email _____

Street Address _____

City, State, Zip _____ Phone () _____

The Autism Society of Greater Wisconsin (ASGW) serves **53 counties** in Wisconsin. We share membership with our 5 local Autism Society affiliates listed below. By choosing a local affiliate below, you will join both the Autism Society of Greater Wisconsin and the local affiliate. If there is no local affiliate serving your county, leave this section blank.

- | | |
|--|--|
| <p>___ <u>Autism Society of the Fox Valley (ASFV)</u></p> <p>Outagamie, Winnebago, Calumet, Fond du Lac and Waupaca Counties</p> | <p>___ <u>Autism Society of Central Wisconsin (ASCW)</u></p> <p>Clark, Forest, Langlade, Lincoln, Marathon, Oneida, Portage, Price, Taylor and Wood Counties.</p> |
| <p>___ <u>Autism Society of the Lakeshore (ASL)</u></p> <p>Manitowoc, Sheboygan, Calumet, Kewaunee and Door Counties</p> | <p>___ <u>Autism Society of Chippewa Valley (ASCV)</u></p> <p>Sawyer, Polk, Barron, Rusk, St. Croix, Dunn, Chippewa, Pierce, Pepin, Eau Claire, Buffalo, Trempealeau and Jackson Counties.</p> |
| <p>___ <u>Autism Society of Northeast Wisconsin (ASNEW)</u></p> <p>___ Brown, Shawano, Oconto, Florence, Menominee and Marinette</p> | |

MEMBERSHIP CATEGORIES:

___ Individual (\$15) ___ Family (\$20)

___ New Member ___ Renewing Member

BILLING

___ Bill my Master Card/VISA Card # _____ Exp Date _____

Authorized Signature _____ CVV (3 digit code on the back) _____

___ Check enclosed: Check # _____

___ Enclosed is a \$10 contribution towards the cost of the newsletter—thank you!

Additional contribution (tax deductible).

___ \$25 ___ \$50 ___ \$100 ___ \$ (Other)

Please send your completed membership form and payment to:
Autism Society of Greater Wisconsin | 1477 Kenwood Drive |
Menasha, WI 54952 Fax (920) 558-4611

If you have questions, email Kelly at kbrodhagen@autismgreaterwi.org or call 888-428-8476.

For office use only

Date Rec'd _____

Check # _____

Amount \$ _____

Autism Society of the Fox Valley
PO Box 266
Little Chute, WI 54140
(920) 558-4602
(888) 428-8476

Email:
info@autismfoxvalley.org

ASFV Board Members

Diane Nackers, MS CCC-SLP
President
Ann Olson—Vice President
Bob Olson—Treasurer
Heidi Dahle—Secretary

Steve Brennan
Archana Hendrick, MD
Kristin Wahl
Chad Leder
Andy Teska
John Oehler
Dale Bushman



Newsletter Submissions

Articles of interest, stories/poetry of persons with autism, book reviews and upcoming conferences or workshops are accepted. Submissions can be sent to: Diane Nackers, 8042 Saquaro Ct, Neenah WI 54956 email: asfvevents@autismfoxvalley.org

Submission deadlines are December 1, March 1, June 1, and September 1. Responsibility for accuracy of information remains that of the author of the article. Articles from this publication may be reprinted, giving credit to the author and ASFV. The ASFV Editorial Review Board reserves the right to edit or refuse submissions.

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Autism Society of the Fox Valley



The Autism Society of the Fox Valley Mission Statement

Our Mission:

The Autism Society of the Fox Valley, Inc. was established in 1989. We are a 501 (c) 3 non-profit organization serving the counties of Calumet, Fond du Lac, Outagamie, Waupaca and Winnebago. Our mission is to provide information and referral, advocacy, public awareness, education and support for individuals, families, professionals and others who support people with autism.

