



Welcome to USAAA News, a weekly newsletter that addresses a range of topics on Autism and Asperger Syndrome, the TIP of the week, and USAAA convention updates.

December 1, 2005

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#### Chantal Sicile-Kira Appointed to Advisory Board

Chantal Sicile-Kira has been appointed to the USAAA Advisory Board. She is the author of *Autism Spectrum Disorders* (Penguin), recipient of the ASA 2005 Outstanding Literary Work of the Year. Chantal is Autism One Radio program host of *The Real World of Autism with Chantal* ([www.autismone.org/radio](http://www.autismone.org/radio)).

She has over 20 years of experience with ASDs as a professional and as a parent raising her severely autistic son (now 17 years old) across three different countries. Chantal is active in various non-profits including the San Diego Chapter of the Autism Society of America, Cure Autism Now, Helping Autism through Learning and Outreach (HALO), and La Casa Center for Autism. She is also a national speaker on autism spectrum disorders, advocacy, and adolescent issues.

Chantal's next book, *Adolescents on the Autism Spectrum*, will be published by Penguin in March 2006. Visit Chantal's website at <http://www.chantalsicile-kira.com/>.

#### Dr. Phillip DeMio Appointed to Advisory Board

Dr. Phillip DeMio has been appointed to the USAAA Scientific Advisory Board. Dr. DeMio is a Defeat Autism Now! Practitioner and the father of a child with autism. He has been an MD for over 20 years, including as a faculty member at several teaching hospitals with a career that includes E. R. medicine, with an emphasis on toxicology.

Dr. DeMio is accredited for speaking nationally on medical topics including brain toxicology, nutrition, and the use of supplements in health and disease for children and adults. Currently a program host on Autism One Radio, he has previously hosted different health talk radio programs.



Patty Lemer, M.Ed., Appointed to Advisory Board

Patty Lemer has been appointed to the USAAA Advisory Board. Ms. Lemer is co-founder and the Executive Director of Developmental Delay Resources (DDR), an international, non-profit organization integrating conventional and holistic therapies for children with developmental delays. She holds a Masters of Education in counseling and learning disabilities from Boston College and a Masters in Business from Johns Hopkins University. She is a National Certified Counselor, and practiced as an educational diagnostician for over 30 years.

Ms. Lemer lectures nationally on autism spectrum disorders. She is especially interested in helping families prioritize therapies, so as to use their financial personal resources most efficiently. Another area of Patty's great interest is vision and the role of visual dysfunction in AD(H)D and autism. She is the author of numerous articles.

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**JOIN USAAA NOW AND RECEIVE A COMPLIMENTARY COPY OF DIAGNOSIS AUTISM: NOW WHAT? 10 STEPS TO IMPROVE TREATMENT OUTCOMES, PLUS 10% OFF CONFERENCE REGISTRATION AND EXCITING DISCOUNTS ON INTERVENTIONS THROUGH OUR SPONSORS.**

Quote of the Week

We make a living by what we get, but we make a life by what we give. — Winston Churchill