

## Announcements

*Family Forum on Autism*, a new quarterly newsletter, seeks informal articles and stories from parents and siblings on their experiences with autism. Subjects may include accomplishments of autistic persons; tips for behavior management; successful educational, vocational, and residential situations; experiences with advocacy; and others.

To submit or for more information, write to Robert Fromberg, *Family Forum on Autism*, 425 W. Roscoe, No. 403, Chicago, IL 60657.

We have recently received a letter from the mother of a 26-year-old recovered autistic man in Australia, which states, "his social skills are quite remarkable, in view of his background. He has many close friends of both sexes. . . Simon is a lovely person and enthusiastic achiever in all areas of his life and a caring and warm-hearted companion to all."

Simon's story is told in the book *Face to Face* by Lurline Morphett, his mother. The book describes Simon's early childhood, which will be very familiar to the parents of autistic children everywhere, as well as his gradual improvement over the years. A chapter by Simon himself gives important insights into his earlier autistic behavior and his present mode of thinking. Fans of Temple Grandin's book *Emergence* will also be very much interested in *Face to Face*. The book is available as number 81 on the ICBR publication list at a cost of \$12, which includes postage. California residents add 72 cents sales tax.

The Clarke Institute of Psychiatry, Child and Family Studies Centre, will present a two-day conference on "Challenge and Change in Childhood Psychopathology," Nov. 17 and 18, at the Park Plaza Hotel in Toronto.

Featured speakers will include Eric Schopler, Theodore Shapiro, and Thomas Gualtieri.

For more information contact Thomas Yoannidis, conference coordinator, Clarke Institute of Psychiatry, 250 College Street, Toronto, Ontario MST 1R8, Canada, (416) 979-2221.

We have received inquiries concerning the availability of the Canon Communicator mentioned in our editorial on "Language and Quantum Behavior Improvement" (ARRI Vol. 2, No. 1).

The Canon Communicator costs about \$400. For information call Canon U.S.A., Inc., at (516) 488-8700, or write to the company at One Canon Plaza, Lake Success, New York, NY 11042-9979. California residents can contact Dorothy Healey, Canon U.S.A., 2055 Main Street, Irvine, CA 92714, (714) 979-6000.

## Report from the Soviet Union . . . .

*Editor's note: ARRI thanks Professional Advisory Board members M. S. Vrono and V. M. Bashina, autism researchers in the Soviet Union, for providing us with research papers. We also thank Dr. Andrzeja Dubinsky, who translated these papers into English for us.*

Russian researchers W. M. Bashina and M. S. Vrono report that following intensive treatment in their "day clinic", approximately half of the autistic children they worked with were able to attend special education classes or regular kindergartens. Children at Bashina's and Vrono's clinic were treated by a neuropathologist, a pediatrician, music therapist, speech therapist, psychologist and psychiatrist.

Similar results were achieved in an experimental group conducted by K. S. Lebedinskaya and colleagues, who focused on teaching autistic children social skills.

While autism treatment in the Soviet Union focuses largely on psychotherapy, researcher O. S. Nikolskaya also is interested in the relationship between autism and allergies, the usefulness of mega-

vitamin therapy, and the high incidence of digestive problems reported in autistic children. Bashina is studying the differences between children with Kanner's syndrome (or "classical" autism), and autistic-like children, in the hope of isolating genetic factors which may be responsible for some forms of autism.

In Russia "classical" autism apparently is still considered to be caused by emotional trauma, but there appears to be growing acceptance of the idea that other autistic-like conditions are biologically caused.

"Typology of early childhood autism," O. S. Nikolskaya, ZH Nerv PS, 87 (10), 1508, 1987; "Information about the activity of a special experimental group on the clinical, psychological and pedagogical correction of early childhood autism," K. S. Lebedinskaya, Moskva; ZH Nerv PS, 86 (10), 1591-1592, 1986; "Problems of adaptation for the afflicted with the syndrome of early childhood autism," M. S. Vrono and W. M. Bashina, ZH Nerv PS, 87 (10), 1441-1600, 1987; and, "Correlation between premanifest dyonogenesis, the syndrome of Kanner early infantile autism, and early infantile schizophrenia," W. M. Bashina, ZH Nerv PS, 86 (3), 413-418, 1986. Address for all: W. M. Bashina, Acad Med Sci USSR, Mental Health Sci. Ctr., Clinical Psychiat. Res. Inst., Children's Psychosis Clinic, Moscow 109801, USSR.

### Professional Advisory Board

Dr. V. M. Bashina, USSR  
Jorge Ciprian-Ollivier, M.D., Argentina  
Donald Cohen, M.D., USA  
Dr. Angel Diez Cuervo, Spain  
Professor Reuven Feurstein, Israel  
Yoshihiko Hoshino, M.D., Japan  
M. M. Konstantareas, Ph.D., Canada  
Hisashi Kumashiro, M.D., Japan  
Prof. Tao Kuo-Tai, People's Rep. of China

Gilbert LeLord, M.D., France  
Liliana Mayo, M.A., Peru  
Lilia Negron, M.D., Venezuela  
Margo Prior, Ph.D., Australia  
K. L. Reichelt, M.D., Norway  
Pedro Paulo Rocha, M.S., Brazil  
Eric Schopler, Ph.D., USA  
Professor M. S. Vrono, USSR  
Lorna Wing, Ph.D., England

Membership on the Professional Advisory Board does not necessarily imply endorsement of the editorial views expressed in the ARRI.

### Subscriptions

— Please send me the *Autism Research Review International* for 1988.  
(U.S. subscription \$15; subscriptions outside the U.S., \$17) \$ \_\_\_\_\_  
U.S. funds

— Please send me the *Autism Research Review International* for 1989.  
(U.S. subscription \$15; subscriptions outside the U.S., \$17) \$ \_\_\_\_\_  
U.S. funds

*Note: All subscribers for 1988 will receive the March, June, September and December 1988 issues of the ARRI. Subscribers for 1989 will receive the four 1989 issues. Partial-year subscriptions are not available.*

Donation:

— I am enclosing a donation to assist the work of the Institute for Child Behavior Research.\* \$ \_\_\_\_\_  
\*Federal Exempt Designation: 501(c)(3)

Total enclosed: \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

Make checks payable to ICBR and mail to the Institute for Child Behavior Research, 4182 Adams Ave., San Diego, CA 92116.