



the Arch



February 7th, 2012
Volume 35, Issue 26

ASPERGER SYNDROME

Jay Serdula

Jay Serdula is a young man from Kingston Ontario with Asperger Syndrome. While on the autism spectrum and often confused with high-functioning autism, Asperger Syndrome stands on its own. Furthermore, there are vast differences even amongst the people who have this disorder. Asperger Syndrome is commonly viewed as a disability or handicap but it doesn't need to be; by and large it simply entails a different way of looking at things. Just as left-handed people often find themselves at a disadvantage because they are in the minority (most tools are designed for right-handed people and manufacturers don't want to be bothered to make tools suitable for left-handed people), people with Asperger Syndrome are at a disadvantage solely because they are different. Most of life's situations (such as the school curriculum or instruction manuals) are designed so that they can be readily handled or understood by the "average" person. People with Asperger's can learn the same concepts as anyone else but they process and retain the information differently.

Jay was born in Deep River Ontario in 1972. Asperger's Syndrome did not have a name, even in Europe, until 1981. This explains why Jay's parents were unable to get a diagnosis for him when he was six, even though they knew something was wrong. Jay was integrated into the regular public school system without any special education. During his years in elementary school he had difficulty distinguishing between playful teasing and blatant bullying. Jay was often unaware who his true friends were and who was "out to get him". Even true friends would at times get impatient or frustrated by his seeming lack of empathy (understanding the thoughts and emotions of others) and difficulty with the concept of "personal space".



Jay's hobbies have included long-distance running, cross-country skiing, and chess. Jay learned to swim at age seven, which was considered late for someone living in a small town on the waterfront. He did his first triathlon at age seventeen in 1990. When Jay was younger he was afraid of change and afraid to try new things, which is a very typical Asperger characteristic. Now, Jay is pushing the opposite extreme and always on the lookout for new challenges. In July 2006, he was awestruck by the successful crossing of Lake Ontario by 15-year-old Jenna Lambert, who has cerebral palsy, of the greater Kingston area. Within a matter of days, Jay decided that he wanted to swim across Lake Ontario. Jay chose Asperger Syndrome as the charity for which to swim, seeing that Asperger Syndrome has personal significance to him. Through the swim, he planned to not only raise money to assist with research and programs for Asperger Syndrome, but also to raise awareness, plus demonstrate what Aspies are capable of accomplishing when they put their minds to it.

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Chartered March 14th, 1977

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Meeting Photos



January 31st, 2012



Dave Saunders standing in for Pres Dave



Paul Harris contributors



Stephen introducing our guests



New members Jeff Evans and Anne Dale



VIP visitor ADG Martin Harvey



Ann Marsh on the
Amanda Lindhout evening meeting

Greeters

February 7th Harry Nazarchuk & Dale Perret

February 14th Ann Marsh & Rena St. Clair

If you are unable to GREET on your assigned day,
please contact Barry Korpatnisky so he can get a
replacement ... 403-278-8982

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Jay received his Bachelor's in Applied Math with an electrical engineering elective at the University of Waterloo in 1996 and he earned his Masters in Physical Oceanography at the Royal Military College of Canada in 2003. Jay is currently working in the Chemistry & Chemical Engineering Department at the Royal Military College of Canada. His duties involve mathematical analysis and computer programming to study defective fuel rods in nuclear reactors.

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The "End Game" for Polio Plus

Excerpt from New Scientist - 11 January 2012 by Debora MacKenzie

The final push to eradicate polio has a rather tricky end game. Success will turn on a radical plan to prevent the polio vaccine itself from keeping the disease going. The World Health Organization has been asked to ditch the vaccine that has cut polio cases by 99 per cent since 1988. The aim: to prevent the vaccine itself defeating the whole effort.

The end game in tackling polio – now endemic only in south Asia and Nigeria – will be tricky. The trivalent oral polio vaccine (tOPV), contains a weakened virus from each of the three polio strains. The idea has been to stop the wild virus circulating worldwide, at which point everyone in the world stops using the vaccine at the same time.

But vaccine viruses persist in the environment and in a few people who are chronically infected. These viruses can regain the ability to cause polio. As vaccination is withheld from more and more newborn children, those viruses could return. A vaccine called IPV, made of dead viruses, exists but is too expensive for poor countries, which routinely use tOPV.

A new vaccine, called bivalent OPV (bOPV), containing weakened viruses of types 1 and 3 is beginning to be used (type 2 no longer exists as a wild virus). Extra rounds of bOPV vaccination cut India's polio cases from 42 in 2010 to 1 last year.

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Upcoming Events



World Understanding Month

February 7th Carole Steeves, Director, Friends of Fish Creek
February 11th Exchange Students' fundraiser dinner for ShelterBox @ 5:30pm
February 14th Cheryl Foggo, Black Historian
February 16th Cribbage Club @ Horton Road Legion, 5pm for food and drinks, play at 6:30
February 21st Amanda Lindhout – evening dinner meeting, sign-up sheet circulating
February 23, 24, 25, 26 District 5360 & 5370 Curling Bonspiel, Dawson Creek BC
February 28th Laverne Bissky and Darlene Davies – Rotary Polio Eradication Program

Literacy Month

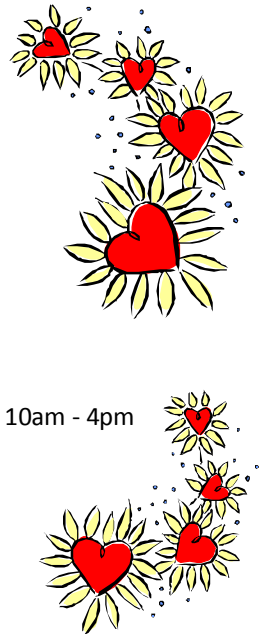
March 1st Cribbage Club @ Horton Road Legion, 5pm for food and drinks, play at 6:30
March 6th John Carpay, Canadian Taxpayers Federation
March 15th Cribbage Club @ Horton Road Legion, 5pm for food and drinks, play at 6:30
March 31st Cribbage Club playing for the Lew Reid Memorial Trophy, Horton Road Legion, 10am - 4pm

Magazine Month

April 3rd Mike Casey, President, Calgary Stampede

Promote RI Convention Month

May 6th - 9th 103rd Rotary International Convention, Bangkok, Thailand
May 25th - 27th District 5360 Conference, Radisson Hotel & Conference Centre, Canmore AB



The Korpatniskys down south ...

We just returned from a visit to Brazil and spent a week with Lucas and his family. These photos were taken at Lucas's Dad's Rotary meeting.

Barry and Cynthia Korpatnisky



Rotarians to Trek to the Base Camp at Mt. Everest

President Dave and his wife Ruth are going with other District 5360 Rotarians to trek to the Mt. Everest base camp in April.

This is a fund raising event to support the Sir Edmund Hillary Foundation (SEHF) to build a school to educate Nepali children – the only school in the region to offer a high school science curriculum. With your help deserving students, regardless of their family's financial resources, can acquire a grade 12 diploma ... and an opportunity for a better life.

Dave and Ruth have met the requirement for each trekker to raise \$2500 for the SEHF. This money is NOT to cover their expenses. However, they welcome any additional funds that can be raised for this cause.



The "End Game" for Polio Plus

... cont'd from page 2

And there is another breakthrough: a new way of administering IPV that makes it affordable.

Countries might then use IPV along with bOPV as insurance against type 2, and on its own after the wild virus is gone and vaccine viruses are still dying out.

The strategy now will depend on what the WHO executive decides this month.



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Proceeds help the Calgary West Rotary Club support these organizations:

Habitat For Humanity	Motive Action	Polio Eradication	Operation Eyesight Universal
Youth with a Mission	Feed The Hungry	Micro-Credit Programs	Youth Partnerships
Big Brothers / Big Sisters	Alpha House	Rotary Challenger Park	Rotary Flames Foundation
Hearts and Hands Foundation	The Food Bank	Meals on Wheels	Many Others

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"Freedom in Forgiveness" an evening with Amanda Lindhout

The Carriage House Windsor Ballroom

Tuesday February 21, 2012

Cocktails 6:00pm • Dinner 6:30pm

Tickets \$50.00/pp

(includes a 3 course meal, coffee/tea)

At the 2011 District Conference some of our members, including President Dave and Vice President Dave, had the opportunity to hear Ms. Amanda Lindhout speak. They were personally moved by her presentation. As a result we have invited her to share her story, with our club members as well as friends, family and young people, the evening of Tuesday February 21st. This will be our Valentine meeting given the content of the evening. If you are unable to personally attend, please consider purchasing and donating your tickets.

Please join Amanda as she shares her past experiences as a journalist during a tumultuous time in Somalia, her 460 days in captivity in 2008/09 and what she has been inspired to do as a result of her experiences.

There will be a signup sheet circulated where you will also be able to indicate your menu preference. Tickets will be available until Tuesday February 14th. If you have any questions please feel free to contact Ann Marsh at ann.marsh@first7seconds.com



*Rotary Club of
Calgary Chinook*

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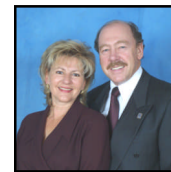


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