



# COLONIAL CHAPTER

[HTTP://GEOCITIES.COM/COLONIALCHAPTER/](http://geocities.com/colonialchapter/)

MARCH 2008

## PRESIDENT'S CORNER

Signs of spring are everywhere, from the budding leaves on the trees to the sprouting daffodils. Spring has always been an exciting time of anticipation of great things to come. In many ways, that's a reflection of our chapter. The chapter is off to a great start: the e-group has increased to 55 members, our database has over 100 families, we have a newsletter and a web site, and we are enjoying monthly social events.

If we consider these accomplishments as the buds of our chapter's spring, it's now time to consider where to take the chapter from here. After talking with many of you, a couple of goals have come to light:

- Explore how the chapter can better support the adults in our chapter area

- Increase membership, especially in the Virginia area of the chapter

The current officers of our chapter all happen to be parents of Little People. Not that that's a bad thing,

but quite often our focus is on our children and understanding what they would like to get out of the chapter. While still maintaining fun and informative family activities, our chapter should also provide activities oriented towards the adult members. We need your help in this area. We are looking for an adult Little Person who can help guide the chapter towards accomplishing this goal.

We have found that there are very few active members in the Virginia area of the chapter and would like to reach those that may be interested. We are thrilled to have been asked to hold the fall regional and have selected Virginia Beach as the location. We hope that the publicity that the regional may bring will also bring about awareness of our chapter, especially in the Virginia area—besides, the beach is a fun place! The theme for the regional will be "Surfin' LPA", so get out your board shorts and join us as we plan and prepare for this big event. We need everyone who is able to

help us make this event the huge success that we want it to be. We are especially looking for volunteers to help with registration, fundraising, and the various activities.

Please contact one of us if you are interested in helping with any of these efforts, planning an event, or would like to contribute in any other way.

We'd like to thank everyone who has already contributed to the revival of our chapter. Whether you've made a donation, organized an event, supported the chapter through your presence at events, contributed to the newsletter, or shared information on the e-group, thank you! Your efforts are the sprouting buds of the many great things to come.

Leta Krieger & Cathy Hughes, Co-Presidents

[kriegers4@msn.com](mailto:kriegers4@msn.com)  
[hughessah@aol.com](mailto:hughessah@aol.com)



- *We're on the Web!*
- *Join the Colonial Chapter Yahoo Groups*
- *Pictures from the January and February Events*

### INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

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### COLONIAL CHAPTER OF THE LPA

**Presidents:**

Cathy Hughes and Leta Krieger

**Treasurer:**

Doug McCrory

**Secretary:**

Robin Davis

**Parent Coordinator:**

Lisa McDowell

**Newsletter Editors:**

Lindsay Fowler and  
Cindy Horton

**The Chapter Needs You...See Page 6 For Details!!**

**Greenville, NC****February 9, 2008**

The District 3 Teens joined the Colonial Chapter for an action-packed day in Greenville, NC. The youth met for a game of basketball at St. James United Methodist Church, which generously donated the use of their gym, then joined the rest of the group for lunch at the Olive Garden. Andrew H. celebrated his 15<sup>th</sup> birthday and Blaise was on fire - got milk? Fully recharged, the crew headed for Bladez on Ice, where Karen bravely took to the ice for the first time—great job Karen! Blaise, an ice hockey player, wowed everyone with his moves, while other boys bonded over arcade games. We'd like to thank Kate Dunstan for organizing this fun-filled day for us.



Get-well wishes are sent to Paige Fowler and Dee Miller as they recover from surgery.

## Scholarship Opportunities

### Kitchens' Travel Fund

If you plan to attend the national conference in Detroit and have never attended a national conference before, check out the Kitchens first-time attendees scholarship. It is named after Mary Kitchens, who felt strongly that the experience should be available to all who desired it. Applications are available online at [www.lpaonline.org](http://www.lpaonline.org) and are **due April 28<sup>th</sup>, 2008**.



Heading off to college or a vocational school? Apply for an LPA scholarship. Awards range from \$250-\$1000. Applications are available online at [www.lpaonline.org](http://www.lpaonline.org) and must be **post-marked by April 22, 2008**.



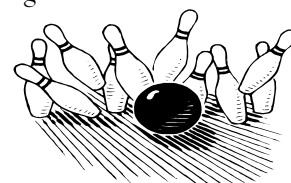
### LPA Educational Scholarship



### Chesapeake, VA

January 26, 2008

The pins were flying as the LPA bowling champs knocked out strike after strike at our bowling get-together on January 26<sup>th</sup>! (Okay, I might be exaggerating a bit, but some actually did get one or two strikes!) We enjoyed lunch, getting to know new folks, seeing old friends, and an afternoon of bowling and arcade games at the AMF Center in Chesapeake. Many thanks to Sharon Fadness for putting this fun event together for us. We would like to welcome the new families and friends that joined us too: Donna Humphries and her son, Hunter (3-yo.) of Chesapeake; Stephanie Wells and her daughter, Kaitlyn (8-yo.) also of Chesapeake; Tommy Duranski of Virginia Beach; and Lori Hanley and her son, Brock (2-yo.) also of Virginia Beach. Welcome and we hope to see you again real soon!



## Request for Fundraising Folks & Donations



As most of you know, although we are a new chapter low on funds, we are already hosting our first regional this fall! We have a lot of fundraising to do for the regional, as well as to support all our other operations and the activities we like to share with our fellow chapter members. We are looking for people that would be interested in helping with fundraising efforts for the regional. This would include approaching businesses in your area for either monetary or merchandise donations, organizing a fundraising event (car wash, bake sale, etc.), or putting together one of the themed baskets for our raffle during the regional banquet. Some themes for the baskets could be a “handyman” basket with items from Home Depot, or an arts & crafts children’s basket with paints, paper, markers, etc. Any odd items that cannot be used in the basket can always be used at the Friday night Bingo event or raffled off. Speaking of the raffle, we are also looking for goods and services to offer at the raffle. Examples might be a week at someone’s vacation mountain or beach home, a free service provided by a member’s business (a massage from a member who’s a massage therapist, etc), or large donated items (bicycle, television, etc.). For those willing to solicit donations, we have donation request letters, as well as thank-you letters, already prepared, so you will have what you need to get started whenever you’re ready! Please contact Leta Krieger with any offers or suggestions [lkrieger@vbgov.com](mailto:lkrieger@vbgov.com).



Save a Tree

### Colonial Chapter Is Going Green!

Have an e-mail address, but receiving the newsletter via USPS?

Let us know, and we’ll add you to the e-mail distribution. [hughessah@aol.com](mailto:hughessah@aol.com) or [kriegers4@msn.com](mailto:kriegers4@msn.com)

## UPCOMING EVENTS.....PLEASE CHECK OUR WEB SITE FOR DETAILS!

[HTTP://GEOCITIES.COM/COLONIALCHAPTER/](http://geocities.com/colonialchapter/)

### April 4-6 Spring Regional, Timonium, MD

Hosted by the DelMarVa Chapter

Check out their web site for more information:

<http://www.delmarvachapter.com/Regional2008.html>



### May 10 Chapter Cook Out, Leta Krieger's house, Virginia Beach, VA

Side dishes and other items will be requested closer to the date.

More information will be sent to the e-group and available on the chapter web site

<http://www.geocities.com/colonialchapter/>

### June 20-28 National Conference, Detroit, Michigan

Conference registration packets have been mailed.

If you have not received yours, you can send an e-mail request to [info@laponline.org](mailto:info@laponline.org)

### July Carolina Mudcats, Zebulon, NC

Join us for a great day of fun, baseball and meet Little Muddy. Exact date and details will be on the web site and announced on the e-group soon. Hosted by the Theriault Family.

### August Regional Planning Meeting, Virginia Beach

### August 9-14 Painted Turtle Camp, Skeletal Dysplasia Session, Lake Hughes, CA



Each summer the **Painted Turtle** organization holds one week of camp specifically for 7-16 year-old children with dwarfism. Everyone is invited to apply *early*. Admission to camp is granted to 120 applicants. All [application paperwork](#), including medical forms, must be submitted before an applicant can be considered for admission. There is no cost to attend camp, although donations are accepted. On-site state-of-the-art medical clinic, medical staff, and camp counselors are available at all times. **Painted Turtle** camp is located near Lake Hughes, CA. [www.thepaintedturtle.org](http://www.thepaintedturtle.org)

Last year 120 campers from across the nation participated in a wonderful and memorable week of camp. If you are interested in volunteering at camp, donating to the LPA transportation fund, or if you have any questions, please contact [Joanna Campbell](mailto:joanna.campbell@earthlink.net) [http://www.lpad12.org/D12\\_home.html](http://www.lpad12.org/D12_home.html).

**UPCOMING EVENTS (CONT.).....PLEASE CHECK OUR WEBSITE FOR DETAILS!**

[HTTP://GEOCITIES.COM/COLONIALCHAPTER/](http://geocities.com/colonialchapter/)

**September** Event TBD, located in NC

**November** Off

**December** Wilson, NC

Hosted by Clutter Family; details to be announced

**October 3-5**

**SURFIN' LPA FALL REGIONAL**



Wyndham Virginia Beach Ocean Front Hotel

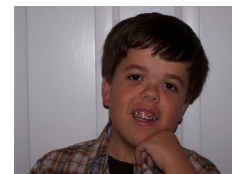
5700 Atlantic Avenue | Virginia Beach

**Friday Night Dance      Saturday Banquet & Dance**

**Drs. Mackenzie & DiLustro      Kids Room**

**Teen Activities and Much, Much More!**

# Teen Scene



## Why Me? Why Not?

By Andrew Horton

Why me? Out of all the babies in that hospital, why did I have to be the different one? Why did I have to come into this world not knowing that I had a long road ahead of me and it wasn't going to be a smooth one? Why me? Why am I the only one on my street that has a kiddie bike, just because my legs can't reach the pedals? Why me? Why is it that I have to get clothes specially done, while other kids can just buy clothes off the rack? Why me? Why is it that every time I walk into a room I get weird looks and get pointed at, just because I look a little different? Why me? Why is it that in all of my school pictures, I'm on the front row? Why me? Why am I always assigned a desk towards the front of the classroom instead of choosing my own desk like everyone else does? Why me? Why do I have to have so many surgeries and so many doctors appointments, when other kids have to go to the doctor maybe once or twice a year? Why me? Why is it that I am not allowed on most amusement park rides but most kids several years younger than me are? Why me? Why is it that I am not taken seriously when competing in sports in and outside of school, just because I am small? Why me?

Sometimes I wonder why I'm on this earth, but then I ask myself, why not? Why should I want to be "normal"? Why should I worry about what other people think of me? Why not be the shortest kid in school, and be different than everyone else? Why not have to deal with kids teasing me? When kids tease me, I don't think I lose any self confidence at all. I think I actually gain some. Sure, teasing hurts a lot, but why should I care about someone who isn't nice to me? Their words don't mean anything to me because I know I'm better than that. A lot of people ask me "If you could ever change your height, would you?" My answer is no. I have been like this my entire life, and have received nothing but positive and good things from being a little person. So whenever I ask myself "why me", I always ask myself again "why not?"

*\*The "Teen Scene" will be included in each quarterly newsletter. Teens are encouraged to contribute!*

***If Undeliverable, Return to:***

Postage

  
**Little People of America**  
*Colonial Chapter of The LPA*  
*4419 Saddle Run Road*  
*Wilson, NC 27896*

Address Label



We're sorry to see you go...

No longer wish to receive this newsletter? Contact Cathy Hughes [hughessah@aol.com](mailto:hughessah@aol.com) or Leta Krieger [kriegers4@msn.com](mailto:kriegers4@msn.com)

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## Help Wanted

### **Wanted: Help in General**

We are always looking for bright ideas and new people to involve in our chapter. If you have an idea for, or would like to help with, our events, web site and egroup, newsletter, fundraising, regional, or anything else, please let us know! Leta Krieger: [lkrieger@vbgov.com](mailto:lkrieger@vbgov.com) Cathy Hughes: [hughessah@aol.com](mailto:hughessah@aol.com) Lisa McDowell: [res04wm5@gte.net](mailto:res04wm5@gte.net)

### **Wanted: Adult Coordinator**

Seeking an adult LP in our chapter area to volunteer to be in charge of increasing adult LP involvement in our chapter, mainly by providing more chapter offerings of interest to adults. This person, our "Adult Coordinator", would coordinate with our other officers to offer activities, information, and support specifically targeted to adults in our chapter. The Adult Coordinator would be in charge of determining what offerings would be of interest to adults with dwarfism and providing them, but some examples of what the chapter could do might be: host activities and events specifically appealing to adults, provide copies of medical reference articles relevant to adults with dwarfism, facilitate exchange of information regarding helpful products and services for adult LPs, perhaps a singles' night cohosted with other chapters in the district, etc. As Parent Coordinator, I personally would be delighted to provide the new Adult Coordinator with as much or as little help with his or her duties as he or she would like. Please email me with any interest or ideas. Thank you so much! Lisa McDowell [res04wm5@gte.net](mailto:res04wm5@gte.net)



Haven't joined LPA yet or need to renew your membership?

Applications are available on our chapter's web site in the MEMBERSHIP section.  
[www.geocities.com/colonialchapter/](http://www.geocities.com/colonialchapter/)