

# Down in the Southland

Friends Don't Count Chromosomes!

Volume 1, Issue 3

June 2011

## Ink from the Inc.

### Information on the latest organizational happenings

Happy Birthday Down in the Southland, Inc.! On June 6<sup>th</sup>, 2011 we were officially recognized as a corporation by the State of Illinois! In addition, our Board of Directors has approved our new bylaws. The bylaws will be made available as soon as possible. The 501c3/tax exempt application has been received by the IRS and hopefully will be approved in less than 30 days.

We have been working like busy little bees setting up our Walk website. The Walk/Picnic committee has already met once and looks like we are going to have a GREAT day! Hope you have already marked your calendars for **Sunday September 18<sup>th</sup>!**

## Our Summer Calendar is Just a Click Away!

If you are ever wondering what Down in the Southland is doing, check page 2 or our [website!](#) If you see an event on the calendar, and you don't receive an Evite at least one week prior to the event, please contact one of the board members to make sure your information is correct in the Evite system.

*continued on page 2*

## INSIDE THIS ISSUE

- 1 Summer Bowling Sessions, Thunderbolts Game
- 2 Summer Calendar
- 3 Past Outings; Fun in the Park; Literacy Corner
- 4 Picnic/Walk/Fundraiser; Gym & Swim; Polished Girlz
- 5 Birthdays; Q&A; Look What I Did

## Bowling Sessions SUCH FUN!

Join 'Kids Bowl Free' for free bowling



Our first Down in the Southland 'series' event is shaping up to be a wonderful success! Our weekly bowling sessions have begun and what great fun we have had so far! The number of spares increases every week and we have even had some strikes! If you would like to join us for weekly bowling Thursday's at 1:30pm, at Oak Forest Bowl please email [downinthesouthland-owner@yahogroups.com](mailto:downinthesouthland-owner@yahogroups.com) , so that we can send an Evite to you. Bowling is \$1 a game on Thursdays, and shoes are \$3.45. If you join the "[Kids Bowl Free](#)" program your child can bowl for free! Each family is required to print and bring their coupons in order to receive free games.

Evites will be sent so we know who to expect!

## Take Me Out to the Ball Game!

On Sunday, June 26th Down in the Southland enjoyed a family friendly game of baseball at the Crestwood Thunderbolts. The weather was perfect and the smell of hotdogs was in the air. Several of our families enjoyed the evening. The crowd roared when the team pulled off a triple play. Boomer came to visit the group and took some pictures with Evan, Iris, Jaden, and Jack. Lauren, Caitlin, and Ethan waved from afar, but enjoyed busting a move to the music. Everyone left with smiles on their faces, including the team which won 2-0.



# July 2011

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
					1	2
3	4 Independence Day	5	6 3pm Gym & Swim	7 1:30p Bowling Oak Forest Bowl	8	9
10	11	12 11a Fun in the Park - Orland	13 3pm TENTATIVE Gym & Swim	14 1:30p Bowling Oak Forest Bowl	15	16
17	18	19 1p Walk at Lake Katherine	20 3pm TENTATIVE Gym & Swim	21 1:30p Bowling Oak Forest Bowl	22	23 11a '05-'07 Monthly Playdate
24	25	26 11a Fun in the Park - Orland	27 3pm TENTATIVE Gym & Swim	28 1:30p Bowling Oak Forest Bowl	29 1:30p '02-'04 Monthly Playdate	30
31						

# August 2011

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	1	2	3 3pm TENTATIVE Gym & Swim	4 1:30p Bowling Oak Forest Bowl	5	6
7	8	9 Jump Zone	10 3pm TENTATIVE Gym & Swim	11 1:30p Bowling Oak Forest Bowl	12	13
14	15	16	17 3pm TENTATIVE Gym & Swim	18 1:30p Bowling Oak Forest Bowl	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26 1:30p '02-'04 Monthly Playdate	27
28	29	30	31			



Colin Lewis and Evan Thornberry enjoy some fresh air at the Little Red Schoolhouse

### A Look at Our Past Outings!

We had wonderful weather for our outing to the new and improved "Little Red School House". Many families came to enjoy some fresh air and discovered what a great new nature center they have!

Wacky Wednesday was an upside-down, mismatched, fun sort of day! Boy, were the kids enjoying the Wacky Wednesday theme!! Like every year, they love the entertainment, but their favorite part is the ICE CREAM!

#### Gym & Swim

The kids had SO much fun playing games such as cat and mouse, with the parachute! They loved hiding under it too! We had a quick game of kickball, followed by an hour of free swim in the pool! They kept asking when we were going to come back!

### Fun in the Park Is Back!

Join your friends at the *Orland Park Fun in the Park* series once again this summer! The information below is from the village's [summer fun guide](#). Evites will be sent to everyone.



Village of Orland Park

### FUN IN THE PARK

Tuesdays, 11:00 a.m.

Pack up the kids and a picnic lunch and head out to one of the fantastic neighborhood parks! All activities are free of charge, so come see what's going on in Orland Park. Rain site is the Cultural Center Exhibit Hall.

July 12 – [Jason Kollum](#)  
[Cameno Real Park, El Cameno Terrace](#)

July 26 – [Little Nashville](#)  
[Schussler Park, Poplar Road & Golfview Drive](#)



### LITERACY/TUTORING PROGRAM

#### OUR MONTHLY UPDATE ON THE TUTORING PROGRAM

The literacy/tutoring program is still in its beginning stages. We are looking for anyone interested in helping as a tutor. If you know of someone, please have them email Lisa with their contact information to [downinthesouthland-owner@yahoogroups.com](mailto:downinthesouthland-owner@yahoogroups.com) with LITERACY in the subject field.



Parachute games at Gym and Swim



Cassie Barnes enjoys swimming!



Bethany Gass, Molly Marchionda and Natalie De Nova at Wacky Wednesday



Brendan Kandich and Ethan Gowaski make good use of the new nature center supplies!



## **ANNUAL PICNIC/WALK/FUNDRAISER**

### **SAVE THE DATE!**

Our first annual picnic/walk/fundraiser is scheduled for **Sunday, September 18<sup>th</sup>**, 2011 at Jaycee Grove (aka McCarthy Park) which is located at 168<sup>th</sup> and 80<sup>th</sup> Ave in Tinley Park. Mark your calendars!!

### **MANY HANDS MAKE LIGHT WORK!**

Our first meeting was a great success and much was accomplished! Look for a flyer soon showing all of the fun things we will be doing at the Walk/Picnic

### **ON LINE FUNDRAISING**

We have been working hard to get the site up and running. Registration will be open sometime in July. Please plan on getting your team pages up as quickly as possible once the site is live...thanks!!

### **FOOD!**

What would a Walk be without a picnic?!?! We will be providing hot dogs and water/juice. We will also have grills going for anything else people want to put on the 'barbie'! We will be asking everyone to *bring a side dish or fruit/veggies to share!* We ask that you save your sweets for another event, as an extra special SURPRISE dessert will be the topper to the day!!!

## **GYM AND SWIM IN CRESTWOOD**

The kids had SO much fun playing with the parachute and kickball, and then swimming for about an hour in the pool, we are doing it again on Wednesday July 6<sup>th</sup>! Siblings are also welcome and the fee is \$5 per child. Evites will be sent to those who have expressed interest in attending. Please try to arrive a few minutes early so we can start promptly at 3pm.

An Evite was sent to everyone for the 7/6 gym and swim, so check your email if you want to attend, it's not too late!

## **Polished Girlz LOVE Down in the Southland!**

In addition to their mission of hand washing and infection reduction, the [Polished Girlz](#) "job (is) to leave our clients feeling more special more fabulous more "Polished" than when we arrived..." Down in the Southland is the first Chicagoland recipient of this unique and fun mission from this Ohio based organization!

On Saturday, June 18<sup>th</sup>, at 1:00pm, the newly established Chicago Chapter of "Polished Girlz" pampered and polished 7 of our lucky 'girlz' with some beautiful nail colors! Check out their [blog post](#) about their visit with our group and to see all the fun pictures!

Polished Girlz may be back for our Walk/picnic! It was so much fun, we hope to see them again!

## **Down in the Southland Board of Directors:**

President: Juliette De Nova 708-614-6118

Vice President: Lisa Pringle 708-535-1438

Secretary: Rita Barnes 708-655-5208

Treasurer: Peggy Marchionda 708-258-6963

Member-at-Large: Rachel Thornberry 708-599-4212

For more information about Down in the Southland email [downinthesouthland-owner@yahoogroups.com](mailto:downinthesouthland-owner@yahoogroups.com) with DOWN IN THE SOUTHLAND as the subject

# Happy Birthday!!!

## July Birthdays

Caitlin Pringle 7/26

Bethany Gass 7/21

Jake Vander Woude 7/2

## QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS

IN THIS SECTION OF OUR MONTHLY NEWSLETTER, WE WILL PROVIDE ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS ABOUT OUR GROUP, OUR DIRECTION, OR ANYTHING ELSE THAT ANYONE WANTS TO ASK (RELATING TO DOWN SYNDROME OF COURSE!). PLEASE EMAIL QUESTIONS TO [OWNER-DOWNINTHESOUTHLAND@YAHOO.COM](mailto:OWNER-DOWNINTHESOUTHLAND@YAHOO.COM). IF YOU WOULD LIKE YOUR QUESTION TO BE ASKED ANONYMOUSLY, PLEASE INDICATE THAT IN YOUR EMAIL.

## LOOK WHAT I DID!!

*Each month, this space will be a place to share our children's recent accomplishments. Send your child's recent successes to [owner-downinthesouthland@yahoo.com](mailto:owner-downinthesouthland@yahoo.com)*

On June 2<sup>nd</sup> 2011, Caitlin Pringle graduated from Kindergarten!

Congratulations Cait!!!!

