

Achieve with us.

## 2018 Annual Meeting & Awards Presentations



Gretchen Sanewsky (L) and Chris Lerchen (R) began to discuss the transition that will take place over the summer. Chris has agreed to stay on for a period of time to help familiarize Gretchen with the operations of the office, and to make introductions both within and outside The Arc and the broader advocacy and service communities.

Here's to a bright and prosperous future, steady on it's foundations, for The Arc of Northwest Wayne County.

### Welcome, Gretchen Sanewsky!

**The Arc of Northwest Wayne County is pleased to introduce our new Executive Director, Gretchen C. Sanewsky, effective June 18, 2018.**

Gretchen brings 27 years of leadership in running non-profit organizations; 23 of those years as the Executive Leader and four of those years as the Director of Community Outreach and Enrollment for PACE (Program of All-Inclusive Care for the Elderly). She began her career during college in special education and found a passion for building inclusive communities. She has spent her career building inclusive faith communities and building a PACE program for adults with disabilities and chronic illnesses. Gretchen received a B.S. from Cornell University, a Master of Divinity from Eastern Baptist Theological Seminary and recently completed Graduate Certificates in Health Administration and Non-profit Leadership from Eastern Michigan University.

**Please join us in welcoming Gretchen to the Arc family and stop in to introduce yourself and share your story of what Arc membership means to you.**

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26049 Five Mile Road  
Redford, MI 48239

Phone: 313-532-7915 Fax: 313-532-7488

[www.thearcnw.org](http://www.thearcnw.org)

**Next Board Meeting**

Tuesday, June 12

## 2017 - 2018 Board of Directors

### OFFICERS

PRESIDENT **Jean Walsh**

VICE PRESIDENT **Kathy Pfuhrer**

SECRETARY **Bill Winkler**

TREASURER **Susan Gardynik**

### DIRECTORS

<b>Kristine Copeland</b>	<b>Marianne Licari</b>
<b>Steve Erickson</b>	<b>Ray Schuholz</b>
<b>Heidi Warren</b>	<b>Rebecca Wengliniski</b>

**Greg Wittrock**

### STAFF

<b>Executive Director:</b>	<b>Chris Lerchen</b>
<b>Office Manager:</b>	<b>Latrice Wilborn</b>
<b>Advocacy &amp; Community Resource Director:</b>	<b>Michelle Driscoll</b>
<b>Programs &amp; Services Assistant:</b>	<b>Sandra Dobson</b>
<b>Advocate:</b>	<b>Chesley Giertz</b>
<b>Lekotek Play Leader:</b>	<b>Lana Richardson</b>
<b>Lekotek Librarian:</b>	<b>Katie Perkins</b>
<b>Claims Processor:</b>	<b>Vida Hunt</b>
<b>Clerical Assistant:</b>	<b>Tammy Clements</b>

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United Way  
for Southeastern Michigan

## From the Board President

As I end my 4-year tenure as The Arc's Board president, it is with a happy heart that I share with you how we at The Arc feel about Chris Lerchen's many accomplishments and her dedication to our mission of building inclusive communities through advocacy, support, and information.

That mission statement has been the driving force behind Chris's professional life for nearly 31 years. She met The Arc when her daughter Liz was born with multiple physical challenges and medically fragile. What started out as a volunteer opportunity and seeking the support and expertise that The Arc provides turned into a career advocating and supporting people with intellectual and developmental disabilities. Many of the people here have been members and friends of The Arc long before I arrived, but they have had the same experience that I have had over my time on the board.

At this time, on behalf of our members, I would like to thank you, Chris, for your dedication and commitment to this organization. It is impossible to summarize your accomplishments in just a few minutes, but I would like to say thank you for your extraordinary leadership both internally and externally. You assumed inter-agency leadership in Wayne County and at the state level and worked extraordinarily hard to establish positive alliances with education leaders, local, state, and national leaders.

As many of you know, funding sources for The Arc have been precarious and have, in some cases, been discontinued. Due to your ongoing commitment to fiscal responsibility, creativity, and reputation as the leader in innovative programs and best practices, you secured alternative funding sources. These funding sources continue to support The Arc's solid financial footing and our Endowment continues to grow. Your efforts have resulted in uninterrupted funding for many programs, such as After I'm Gone, GAIN, and Lekotek.

In addition to those programs, The Arc's presence in Special Olympics and Just Fun Club offer our members the opportunities to maintain a physically active and social lifestyle. These programs rely heavily on volunteers that are crucial to their success and longevity. You demonstrated extraordinary leadership to the many volunteers that are needed to continue providing these exceptional social, athletic, and information sharing opportunities.

In summary, we cannot thank you enough for your dedication, commitment, and leadership. You have fostered and exhibited a spirit of cooperation between The Arc's staff, volunteers, and the community at large. In 2017, you and the staff made meaningful contacts with over 5,000 individuals with I/DD and their families. Those contacts included Lekotek, educational consultations, After I'm Gone, Person Centered Planning, social and sports consultations and events.

You have demonstrated an unwavering commitment to protecting the human right to self determine how a person lives his or her life. This commitment is evident in all of the accomplishments highlighted above. For over 30 years, you have shared your dream and vision with all of the people here and in our community. Your dreams and vision will continue to be carried on with our new Executive Director, the staff, membership and the board. Again, our sincerest thanks for a job amazingly well done.

**Jean Walsh**, in an address delivered at The Arc NW Annual Meeting, May 24th, 2018



Board President and Member of the Year Jean Walsh addressed the membership at The Arc NW Annual Meeting to announce Executive Director Chris Lerchen's retirement.



Our Executive Director Chris Lerchen and Board President Jean Walsh and her son Peter Contos joined more than a dozen other Michigan advocates in DC in April to meet with lawmakers and their aides to talk about policies that impact our members.



Turlo Family - Volunteers of the Year Swimming Program

The Just Fun Club Ice Cream Social was held on Friday, May 11, at Canton High School. We had a great turnout of over 190 members for this YUM-MY event! Everyone loved the vanilla, chocolate and strawberry Guernsey ice cream. There were so many toppings: chocolate and caramel syrup, strawberries, crushed pineapple, nuts, whipped cream and cherries. Our D.J.s, Randy and Mark did a nice job with our music selection and played many songs to dance to. Congratulations to our raffle winners: Kori Porter, Annie Munn, Kate Morganti, Walter Starks, Shauna Hall, Linda Parsons, Renee Lemenski, Sue Clay and Patty Barnes.

I would like to give a very special THANK YOU to all of our committee members for all of their hard work and many hours that they put in at our monthly events this year! They are: Mary Babcock, Karen Beck, Angie Brey, Kim Del Proposto, Allison Del Proposto, Sandy Harshman, Steve Kanyo, Carole Krol, Jackie/Kurt Norris, Barb Ostrander, Anita Pastucha, Richard Rudin, Elena Samborski and Margaret Sherman. We are also so fortunate to have additional volunteers: Patti/Richard Ketelhut and, Bill Beck, Peggy Horn, Nancy Barnes, and Linda Parsons that come to help us with serving cookies, pop, pizza, salad, chicken dinners, donuts, cake, ice cream, cook hot-dogs, and chaperone at our monthly dances. Without these folks giving of their time and energy our JFC would not exist!

As many of you already know, The Just Fun Club began over 48 yrs. ago (1970's) and MANY of our volunteers have been with the program since the beginning. WE are ALWAYS hoping to find family members and friends who would be willing to volunteer just 3-4 hrs. a month to help out with our events. We are trying to enlist some younger volunteers so that the JFC can continue to provide these fun activities that all of our members enjoy. If you can help us out, please call Jackie Norris at 734-718-7150.

Next year's registration forms and dates for our 2018-19 year will be mailed out to everyone who has previously belonged by late July. If you are new member, you need to contact Lana Richardson at The Arc at, 313-532-8524 to request a packet be mailed out to you. Everyone MUST have a membership to The Arc and JFC in order to attend our monthly events.

We hope that everyone has fun and safe summer.

Jackie Norris  
JFC Chairperson



## JUST FUN CLUB NEWS

Thank you to everyone that volunteered, bowled, & came to spend \$\$ at the Sport bowling fundraiser Friday May 4<sup>th</sup> at Oak Lanes. It was the best one yet with 236 Bowlers. Thank you to Dearborn Hgts Fairlane Eagles, Horizon Inc., & CRT Medical for their most generous donation to the Sport program.

Congratulations to Addie Newberry & The Turlo family for being The Arc of NW 2018 Volunteers of the Year! Addie is the Swim Coach, in which, she recruited her family and friends to come support the swim program after the former coach retired. Thank you to all of you and good luck at the Summer Games @ Central Michigan University.

Congratulations to Eddie Roulo one of the Track & Field athletes who will be attending the Special Olympics USA Games in Seattle, Washington this summer. Eddie will be in the following events: Running Long Jump, 1,500M Run, 3,000M Run, and 4x400M Relay. Eddie qualified for these events when he was a participant with The Arc of Downriver. Eddie recently moved to the Livonia area and now is a track runner with us. The very best to you Eddie and enjoy this memorable event of a lifetime!

### **DATES for Baseball & Soccer:**

#### **Baseball –**

**Diamond Baseball** - Tuesday June 26, 6-7pm @ Emerson Middle School

**Wolverine Baseball** – Monday July 16, 7-8pm @ Emerson Middle School

Baseball Invitational @ Drake Park, Farmington Hills, Sat., Aug. 25th

## The Arc Sports News

#### **SOCCER –**

**Hotshots & Wizards**, Tuesday July 31<sup>st</sup>, 7-8pm @ Emerson Middle School (field inside of track)

**Wolverines** – Wednesday August 1<sup>st</sup>, 6-7pm @ Emerson Middle School (field inside of track)

Special Olympic Fall Classic Tournament is Saturday & Sunday September 29 & 30<sup>th</sup>.

Have a wonderful & safe summer, everyone. You'll read the next sport article in September.

Janice Bearden



**Barbara Ostrander - Volunteer of the Year  
With Jean Walsh and Jackie Norris**

**GUYS & DOLLS  
SATURDAY AFTERNOON BOWLING**

**Our 2018/2019 NEXT Season will start on  
Saturday Sept 8 at OAK LANES.  
30 weeks of Saturday afternoon bowling.  
If you are interested in joining the League for the  
NEW SEASON please contact:  
Jim Gallas 248-318-8856 (cell) or  
jagallas@comcast.net**



**Pictures from the Area games at  
Franklin HS on 5-11-18**





**Beth Kohler**  
**Endowment Fund Director**



**Peter Angliss - Achiever of the Year**

**Won't you join & support  
The Arc NW as a member?**

The Arc NW provides advocacy, support and information on disability-related issues across the lifespan.

We seek - and work - to build a more inclusive community.

See the Membership form on the back page of this newsletter or join us online at [www.thearcnw.org](http://www.thearcnw.org)

*Achieve with us.*

## Memorials

**In Memory of  
Richard Holloway**  
Jim Holloway

**If you hear of the passing of an  
Arc member please let us know.  
Help us honor the memories  
of our members and support one  
another through difficult times.**

**Call The Arc NW office at  
313-532-7915**

# June 2018

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
					1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
		Board Meeting 6:00pm				
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30
		Diamond Baseball 6-7pm @ Emerson Middle School				

**CHECK IT OUT!**  
The Arc of Northwest Wayne County's  
Web Site  
[thearcnw.org](http://thearcnw.org)

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The Arc of Northwest Wayne County



**Facebook**



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Inside The Arc is also available online at  
**thearcnw.org**  
Call 313-532-7915 to end your printed mailed newsletter.

### Membership Application

**Name** \_\_\_\_\_

**Email Address** \_\_\_\_\_ **Daytime Phone** \_\_\_\_\_

**Address** \_\_\_\_\_

**City** \_\_\_\_\_ **State** \_\_\_\_\_ **Zip** \_\_\_\_\_

**Name** \_\_\_\_\_ **Birth Date** \_\_\_\_\_

(Name line above for member(s) with intellectual and developmental disability)

Address (if different) \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone (if different) \_\_\_\_\_

*Welcome!*

### Membership Dues

- New Member
- Renewing Member
- Associate Member
- \$35 Annual Family or Group Home Membership
- \$25 Individual Membership
- \$25 Associate Membership

**DONATIONS**  \$10  \$25  \$50  \$100  \$150  \_\_\_\_\_ Other