



Fall / Winter

Bornhava Way

As a member of the Bornhava Community, we invite you and yours...parents, family members, alumni, staff and friends to become part of the Bornhava legacy.



An inscription to honor a loved one or to recognize a special occasion will be etched on a brick, giving you an opportunity to be part of our school's history. Each brick is \$98.00 and measures 6" x 9". Please contact Pat Cammarata at 839-1655 for more information.

Nurses' Corner

How you can protect your child from the flu.

- Get the seasonal flu vaccine for yourself.
- Flu shots can be given to children 6 months and older.
- Clean your hand often and cover your coughs and sneezes to help prevent the spread of germs.
- Stay away from people who are sick.
- Keep their hands away from their face.

If your child has had a fever within 24 hours, do not send them to school.

Message from the Board

I love this time of year. The changes in the season when we go from flip flops to boots, sweaters, crisp air, leaves changing colors, pumpkins, gourds, apples, pot roast and mashed potatoes are all signs that Fall is upon us. Fall at Bornhava is also time for launching our annual Leaves and Dreams campaign which kicked off mid October. As certain as we are that the season's will change, we are also certain of the continuing need to reach out to our friends, family and community to support our programming at Bornhava. As you all know, our fundraising efforts allow our kids and families to enjoy extra activities like field trips to the farm, dance, music, a warm and cozy place in our family room, and our beautiful outdoor garden and playground. The safe, stimulating and nurturing environment we call Bornhava exists in no small part because of the extraordinary generosity of our friends!

Thank you for your continued support and enjoy this beautiful season.

Regards, Deb Flynn President BOD Bornhava

Barbara Jo Hard, Executive Director

ANNE O'CONNOR MEMORIAL FUND

We sadly report that our dear friend, Anne O'Connor passed away this August. Anne was an enthusiastic supporter of Bornhava for the past 28 years.

When we first told her of our plan to start Bornhava in 1983, she willingly responded to being on the Board of Directors even though we had no building, no staff or even any children but she could see our dream and was willing to walk with us. Thus began her strong support along with her creative and very practical problem-solving. In the opening days Anne gave generously through:

- Arranging publicity through a friend, who was a Nun, on a show on Educational TV (Channel 17)
- Arranging a very significant loan from a large local bank to assist in our making payroll.

These obviously were all significant factors enabling the dream of Bornhava to be realized.

But the real treasure she gave to the families and staff at Bornhava was who Anne was. She was the model of a loving mother who was a wonderful advocate in her son Patrick's school district. As he grew, she became the spokesperson and enabler in the community for recreational activities and appropriate living arrangements in Western New York. This advocacy and knowledge was a strong gift shared with all of Bornhava families.



A classroom has been established from the generous donations in Anne's memory

Bornhava is approved by the New York State Dept. of Health in Erie and Niagara counties to provide Early Intervention & Preschool evaluations as well as provide services in home, day-care centers and pre-schools.

Board of Directors: Deborah Flynn, **President**, Connie Stives, **Vice President**, Mary Thomas Scott, Esq, **Secretary**, Michael A. Murak, **Treasurer**, Timothy J Andruschat, Christine Bailor-Goodlander, Mark Brown, PhD, Gene (Skip) Holler, Susan Locke-Scott, Linda Shriber, EdD, OTR/L, Jill Wisz, Anne O'Connor, **Founding Member**, Barbara Jo Hard, **Executive Director**

THE MEN'S FORUM

A Personal Experience

My name is John and my son Jack attended Bornhava in some form since he was 6 months old. He just graduated Bornhava's full day program this past summer and entered Kindergarten. Our family is so proud and excited for him. When Jack was 6 months old, I decided to attend a Men's Forum meeting. I was a little anxious at first, wondering what the meeting would be like. I have participated ever since.

The group is made up of Dads, Grandpas, Uncles, and other male caregivers. The group is chaired by a child psychologist Don Crawford. Don is a great resource, who helps up answer some of those ever so challenging questions on behaviors, appropriate discipline, modeling, and social skills.

I am often asked "What does the group do at a meeting?" The short answer is anything we as a group want to do. We make the agenda and pick the issues we want to discuss. We discuss our kids, their futures, family challenges, our other kids, doctors, new therapies, schools, new laws, future planning, new programs we found, and the list goes on and on. We even throw in some sports or a current event time to time. We talk, ponder, debate, share, and when needed support.

In my experience, one of the biggest advantages of the group is that several fathers of children who left Bornhava long ago, still participate in the group. These fathers openly share valuable lessons that I have been able to use in bettering my son Jack's life. Their experience of already being "through it" is priceless.

Our group meets once a month October through May each year. We meet at Bornhava. Please join us at our next meeting. I hope to see you there!

Best Regards, John Monson

In Memoriam

Our thoughts go to the Crance family with the loss of Austin and Nancy. They will be forever remembered in our hearts.



Austin at his Bornhava Graduation

WOW MOMS

WOW MOMs, a women's group held at Bornhava, is a group of women who meet on a monthly basis throughout the school-year. This group provides women caregivers opportunity to discuss the challenges and successes they have experienced in raising and/or caring for a child with developmental disabilities, and is open to all women who care for a child with special needs. The group is facilitated by the Bornhava Social Worker .

A group meeting may include a presentation, or may include general discussion by those who attend around a topic of interest. Women, both potential group attendees and those who have attended before, were surveyed this school year to learn about topics they would like to see covered in the meetings this year. The following is a schedule for the remaining months of this school-year of topics that were highly selected by the women:

January 5: 1-2-3 MAGIC Video Presentation (how to encourage positive behaviors) Part II, with discussion

February 2: Transition Workshop (by ECDC Vickie Rubin) [*This presentation will be open to male caregivers as well.*]

March 1: TOPIC TBA presentation by Sandra Pennella, R.N., Bornhava's Supervising Nurse

April 5: Presentation about Siblings and the SIBSHOPS of Western New York (by Susan Putnam, Ph.D.)

May: Meeting not being held due to Auction

June 7: Presentation by Karen Chesnutt, Ph.D. (Topic: TBA), and Wrap-up/Review of Year

WOW MOMs this year has already had a few informative speakers present, and the women have also seemed to enjoy the time to talk with each other, learning about many area resources. The following additional comments have been made about this group in the past:

"The WOW MOMs Group is a great place for us to celebrate our kids accomplishments as well as talk about some of the hurdles we face as moms of kids with special needs. The group is a welcome break during a busy week!" ~A mother

"I really enjoy this group. We may all experience the same underlying issues, but can give each other new insights into how to approach the problem at hand." ~A mother

"I really enjoy coming to the meetings because I find it very comforting to talk to moms who have similar issues and concerns as I do caring for a child with special needs. I always learn something new to help my son." ~A mother

We hope to see you at our next meeting!

Thank you to all who have attended.

Please contact Ann at 839-1655 for details.

Center-Based Classrooms

Preschool Classrooms

The teachers will be using the following terms throughout the year to describe various activities and events:

BRAIN GYM – Enrichment exercises to stimulate the brain and muscles through movement and music

ROUND ROBIN – Your child's entire class switches rooms with other classrooms for a 15-minute time period until all classrooms are visited. We do this to explore new toys and a new learning environment. (1 time per week). One of our classrooms has a retired librarian, Miss Linda, who reads and tells stories.

BALL CLASS – While seated on large exercise balls, children participate in a group gross motor activity.

MAT MAN – Working with straight lines and curves, children build a "man" to promote body awareness, eye-hand coordination and turn-taking.



INTEGRATION – Children from Ripen With Us Child Care Center come to Bornhava to visit our classroom and join in our activities. (1 time per week).

DANCE – Classes are provided at Mullen Dance Studios by Tricia Huntress (1 time per week).

MUSIC – Provided in our classrooms by Christine Brown from Community Music School. (1 time per week).

LIBRARY – We walk to the Snyder Branch Public Library to join Miss Kristie in story time. (1 time per week).

Emily Eisenbaum

Basic Group

Our year has gotten off to a great start. We are getting used to a new classroom, new routines and new friends. We're having fun playing with new toys and participating in fun activities such as playdough, shaving cream, finger-painting and water/rice play. Even though this is the first time away from moms and dads, just about everyone is settling in and enjoying the experience. We are going to have a great year so just watch us grow!!!!!!!!!!!!



Ripen With Us Site Ripen

Things have been very busy here at Bornhava's integrated classrooms at Ripen with Us. We have been getting to know each other and learning the names of all our friends and teachers. This is quite a task as there are 10 Bornhava students, 18 Ripen students and many adult friends.

Our first month we spent learning class routines and rules, and sharing "all about me" information. Right now we are focusing on colors, shapes, recognizing first names in print and counting.

We learned about fire safety and now we are exploring fall, harvest themes through the use of song, stories, art and movement activities.

Our four year olds will be going to the zoo in November. This is always an exciting field trip because the animals are very lively in the cooler weather and there are fewer visitors so we can linger as long as we want watching the animals play. We have always been lucky with the weather and I hope our luck continues this year.

Holidays will be here soon and we welcome parent contributions and ideas. Please come and share family traditions with the children.

Anne Boyle, Bornhava Teacher

Integrated Site ACCCCC

Our new UPK integrated site at ACCCCC is under way. We are learning and experiencing many new things. We've examined pumpkin parts, made a book about the life cycle of a pumpkin, charted which kind of apple we liked best (after a taste test of course), counted in patterns, and played math games on the computer. Children are exposed to lots of print, given opportunities to write, and enjoy reading various books. In addition to all of the classroom activities, we participate in ball class, music, gym, and outdoor or muscle room play. We are all really starting to come together as one group and new friendships are being made.

Children are really amazing and we can learn a lot from them. Really watch them closely and you'll see what I mean. They have such sweet, sweet hearts. They care about each other, they forgive quickly and move on, they reach out to others, and they approach everything with such wonder, joy, and enthusiasm.



"While we try to teach children all about life, Our children teach us what life is all about" Angela Schwindt

BORNHAVA'S 18th ANNUAL AUCTION

PLEASE MARK YOUR CALENDAR AND COME CELEBRATE

Date: Saturday, May 5th, 2012

Time: 5:00 PM to 10:00 PM

Place: Marroitt Hotel 1340 Millersport Highway Amherst, NY

What to Expect: Great food, great people, great fun, great items, great auctioneer—

KEVIN O'CONNELL of WGRZ-TV, Channel 2

Please see our website, www.Bornhava.org for more information.

Donations, sponsors, and volunteers are needed!

Please contact Pact Cammarata at 839-1655 x 305



Trick or Treating at our good neighbors' M&T Bank



TURKEY TROT



Speech and Language

We are starting a new and exciting year! Speech and Language skills continue to be an important area of development for your child. Here are some things to work on at home to help enhance your communication interactions with your child.

- Be face to face with your child.
- Pause and allow them to take their turn verbally as well as non-verbally.
- Intrude in their space and play with them.
- Label things in their environment.
- Sit together and look at books.
- Do imitation play of nonsense sounds and environmental sounds.
- Singing songs will help to work on imitation skills in gesture form and in word form.

Remember to just have fun with your child. Communication takes on many forms and a shared smile is a great start!!!!

Occupational Therapy

My name is Nancy Bauer-Yox and I am the new Occupational Therapist at Bornhava. Working with children has been my passion over the past 20 years of my career. I am excited to bring this passion along with my experience to Bornhava. I look forward to meeting and working with many of the Bornhava families.



Sue and Nora working in OT

Physical Therapy

Being at Bornhava feels like coming home...

It is my pleasure to introduce myself as the new full time Physical Therapist at Bornhava. I have been associated with Bornhava for over 15 years. First, working at the Preschool, then as a consultant within the community with Early Intervention and preschoolers. My experiences over the years have also led me to work in the public schools with children of all ages and various levels of ability. But, now, being back at Bornhava, feels like coming home. It is a thrill to be back and work with amazing children and a dedicated and talented group of educators and therapists. I look forward to meeting parents at the Open House and during parent conferences.
Jennifer P. Wojnicki, PT



Jennifer and Nicholas working in PT



Preschool and Early Intervention Program

25 Chateau Terrace

Amherst, New York 14226

OR CURRENT RESIDENT