



The AERial View



Newsletter of the Northern California Chapter,
Association for Education and Rehabilitation
of the Blind and Visually Impaired

Volume 21, No. 3 June 2008 Pat Leader, Editor

From the President's Desk . . .

By the time you read this, NCAER's biennial conference and awards ceremony will have taken place. I hope that many of you attended and enjoyed the fruits of the events-planning committee's labors under the able guidance of President-elect, Theresa Duncan.

The afternoon portion focused on rehabilitation, as we usually do with our spring event. This year's theme, "Challenges and Rewards of Serving the Complex Needs of Our Evolving Client Base," was selected in response to your observations that our multiply challenged rehabilitation client caseloads are on the rise.

The awards ceremony included a special honor for Sally Mangold and presentation of our parent, education, rehabilitation, and meritorious service awards. Finally, new Board members and officers were announced and installed. (See below for more details.)

Since the last newsletter, two of your officers (Pat Leader and I) and a Board member (Liz Hartman) participated in AER-LIFT, AER's annual leadership conference. This year's event was held in Dallas and you can be sure many of us enjoyed some good 'old Texas beef! We also worked hard. Pat Leader and I are on the AER National Board, so we attended the Board meeting that preceded AER-LIFT.

The news from AER's National Office is quite good. Membership has been on the rise for more than a year and revenues are coming in. Enrollment in this summer's International Conference in Chicago (don't forget to attend!) has surpassed expectations (we are into our third overflow hotel and there have been so many applications for exhibit space, that the organizers have reconfigured the

exhibition hall to accommodate them). All this means good things for you. It means our organization is becoming solvent again and its strength is growing in ways that will enable AER to better represent your interests. Credit for this progress goes to a strong National Board, an excellent Executive Director (Jim Gandorf) and his AER staff.

I will continue on the Board during the 2008-2010 biennium, having been elected Chair of the Council of Chapter Presidents. Pat Leader is planning to run for President-elect, so when the ballot comes your way (very shortly), please vote for her!

A funny thing happened on the way back from AER-LIFT. I realized that our chapter could be doing a lot more for its members than we do. Yes, our two mini-conferences each year (the fall conference focuses on education and the spring on rehabilitation) are added value for you. Our web site provides helpful information and links to AER's web site. Of course, this newsletter is a fine publication. But, there is so much more we could be doing. Unfortunately, the thing we lack is more participation from you. The Board can do a great deal and does, but a dozen people can only do so much. If you are interested in helping your Board expand our chapter's services, please write me. And do be sure to visit the NCAER web site at <http://ncaer.aerbvi.org/>

NCAER members work and participate in programs ranging from early childhood development to assisting students in school, adult rehabilitation, job placement, and services to older blind persons. This newsletter and two conferences each year are ways our Chapter supports its members. NCAER also participates in events such as CTEVH scheduled in February and alternating between northern and southern California, and the annual Lowenfeld-Akeson Early Years Symposium.

Earlier, I mention that we honored Sally Mangold at our spring awards ceremony. You may also recall that our chapter purchased a stone in her name, which has now been placed on the Wall of Tribute at the American Printing House for the Blind in Louisville, KY. Our Pat Leader has secured an even greater honor for Sally: nominating her for APH's Hall of Fame. Sally will be inducted with this honor at the APH Annual Meeting in the fall of 2008.

Your Chapter is here to represent the professions in which you work and to preserve specialized services for blind and visually impaired persons. To that end, please feel free to call or write any of us should you need advice or assistance on any matter concerning your profession. It is our mission to be of value to you. We want to provide you the kind of service that makes a difference in your everyday working lives.

You can help us by drawing newcomers to our rolls. Tell your colleagues about AER and get them to sign up and join the division that best represents their professional specialties. Be on the lookout for an announcement of AER's "member-get-a-member" program. Membership in AER confers automatic membership in NCAER.

Membership in AER offers you a means to provide input and to shape the direction our field is moving. Also consider running for an NCAER office or participating on our committees. Of course, attending our workshops and conferences and encouraging others to enter our field is a lifetime responsibility we all carry. If you would like to attend meetings of the NCAER Board, you have a standing invitation.

We will announce meeting times and places on the NCAER web site.

Anthony R. Candela
NCAER President
acandela@juno.com

“We do not remember days. . . we remember moments.”
– cesare pavese

Welcome to the newest NCAER Members:

Wendy Alameda	Elizabeth Cook	Theresa Duncan
Nancy Getten	Joyce Lopez	Paula Mande
Angela Orchid	Joanne Ramos	Joel Roth
Amanda Widmer	Andrew Wodecki	

NCAER 2008-2010 Officers and Board Members

Tony Candela is repeating his stellar performance as President of NCAER, and adding the title of Past President. Congratulations to Theresa Duncan, who has been elected as President-Elect, and to new Board Members, Richard Rueda and Songgye Hung. Your new Board is ready to work, planning exciting programs for the chapter, but most of all, we need your input. Please feel free to contact any of us to let us know how NCAER can best serve YOU!

President: Anthony Candela
916-558-5815
< acandela@dor.ca.gov >

President-Elect: Theresa Duncan
TDuncan@guidedogs.com

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415-867-8948

NCAER Awards Presented

At the NCAER Spring Event, following a stimulating workshop, and lovely reception, the following Biennial Awards were presented:

Parent Awards:

Beverly Lebaire
Peter Lebaire

Education Award:

Wendy Scheffers

Rehabilitation Awards:

Richard Rueda
Paul Raskin

Meritorious Service Award to NCAER Chapter:

Pat Leader

In addition to the Biennial NCAER Chapter Awards, NCAER purchased a stone in the APH Leaders and Legends Hall of Fame, in honor of Sally Mangold. The Stone reads:

“Sally Mangold
Pioneer Braille
Mentor Teacher”

A replica of the stone was provided, and NCAER has presented this to Phil Mangold, Sally’s husband. Phil Hatlen gave a wonderful and insightful tribute to Sally, his longtime friend and colleague. Sally was also nominated by the NCAER Board to be recognized as a “Leader and Legend” in the field. To be nominated, a person must have made significant contributions to the field of Visual Impairments, and have been out of the field for 3 years. To assist with Sally’s nomination, letters of support were written by Phil Hatlen, Stephanie Herlich, and Helene Holman. The Board expresses great appreciation and thanks to these AER members for their help with this endeavor. The Board of the Leaders and Legends Hall of Fame was honored to receive Sally’s nomination, and wholeheartedly endorsed her acceptance into the Hall. The induction ceremony, which also includes the induction of Rick Welsh, will take place at the APH Annual Meeting in the fall of 2008.

Announcements

Review: *Letting Your Child’s Wild Side Out: Raising the Wild and Confident VI Baby, Toddler, and Preschooler*

By Lori Cassels, COMS

Castro Valley Unified School District

Samuel Gridley Howe is best remembered as an innovator in education for the blind and deaf was quoted, “Let them run, better the bump or the scrap on the knee than the rust of inactivity.” This timeless sentiment is the theme of an important new DVD that is the inspiring story about Milagro Sato, an energetic and engaging (and as the title suggests), at times a wild and active child. The 25-minute DVD is narrated by Grace Tiscareño-Sato, Milagro’s mother, as she tells the story of her daughter Milagro, now in

kindergarten. Milagro, her name meaning “miracle” in Spanish, was born prematurely. She developed Retinopathy of Prematurity (ROP) and auditory neuropathy. The DVD follows Milagro’s motor development from birth to her current age of 6 years. Using video clips and photos, the viewer will see how this marvelous child, with tremendous energy and will, grows to walk, dance, swing and eventually ski. The lessons that Grace Tiscareno-Sato shares are not just her own--she quotes parents and other educators to promote a philosophy of letting children set their own limits. Parents, Educators of the visually impaired, and Early Childhood specialists would benefit from viewing this DVD and sharing it with other families they may work with. This DVD imparts the important value of encouraging movement, especially active movement, for children who are blind and deaf-blind.

New Website available:

A new site has been developed by Eyal Shalom to help and serve the blind or visually impaired community by making the web more accessible to them. The site is called: Spoken-Web.

<http://www.spoken-web.com>

In order to be able access Spoken-Web, please do the following steps:

Spoken-Web works with Internet explorer browser on Windows Operation System (Windows 98, Windows 2000,XP and Vista)

Download the spoken.msi

Install It; Open a NEW Internet explorer browser ("Refresh" will not help) and go to Spoken-Web site (<http://www.spoken-web.com>). Enjoy listening to thousands of articles ...

Spoken Web Application Description: Spoken-Web is a Web portal, managing a wide range of online data - intensive content like news updates, weather, travel and business articles for computer users who are blind or visually impaired. The site provides a simple, easy-to-use interface for navigating between the different sections and articles. Using the keyboard to navigate, a person who is blind or who has a visual impairment can hear the full range of an article content provided in a logical, clear, and understandable manner.

Attention Blindness Professionals and All Interested In Shaping the Future of Braille Literacy

The National Blindness Professional Certification Board (NBPCB) is pleased to offer: **NATIONAL CERTIFICATION IN LITERARY BRAILLE (NCLB)**

What and Who:

As of March 2007, the National Literary Braille Competency Test (NLBCT) formerly administered by the National Library Service (NLS), is solely administered by the National Blindness Professional Certification Board (NBPCB). The resulting benefit of this conversion is that candidates who successfully pass all four sections of the test, are eligible to receive the National Certification in Literary Braille (NCLB). This is a professional credential, which entitles certificants the right to present their certification

to employers, and to bear the NCLB title.

The NCLB exam is not aimed at transcribers. Rather, it is a valid test of a person's ability to competently read, write, and understand contracted, literary Braille, and is being targeted to all individuals who teach Braille professionally, and/or those seeking to be credentialed in this area.

When and Where:

Next scheduled test for 2008 will be held in Dallas, Texas on Monday, June 30, and Tuesday, July 1, from 1:00 – 5:00 on both days. Note that sections one and two will be offered on Monday, and sections three and four will be offered on Tuesday. Thus, candidates must be available to sit for the test on both afternoons.

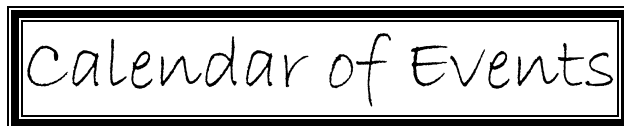
Subsequent NCLB examinations will be convened wherever an appropriate venue can be procured, and sufficient applicant numbers make it possible. Please contact the NBPCB for more details.

The combined application and testing fee is \$250. The application deadline for testing in Dallas is June 13. Test seating is limited, so apply now to ensure your slot! To apply online go to: <http://www.nbpcb.org/nclb/application/> or to download the NCLB

Candidate Guidelines please visit: <http://www.nbpcb.org/nclb/>

For additional information please visit the NBPCB website at: www.nbpcb.org, call the NBPCB office at (318) 257-4554, or contact Louise Walch, NBPCB Coordinator, at: braille@nbpcb.org.

What would you attempt to do if you knew you could not fail?



Calendar of Events

2008.

June

21 - Vision Care & Assistive Technology Day: Cataracts/Glaucoma, a workshop for Clients and Caregivers; speakers/vendors to be announced. To be held at the Blind and Visually Impaired Center of Monterey County, 225 Laurel Avenue, Pacific Grove, CA 93950; 831-649-3505 or <www.blindandlowvision.org>.

29 – July 5 National Federation of the Blind National Convention; contact NFB at 410-659-9314 or view their website www.nfb.org.

July

2 – National Federation of the Blind March for Independence, to be held in Dallas, TX. Contact NFB at 410-659-9314 or view their website www.nfb.org.

5 – 12 - American Council of the Blind National Convention to be held in Louisville, KY. Contact ACB at 800-424-8666 or visit their website <www.acb.org/convention>

7 – 11 – 9th International Conference on Low Vision, in Montreal, Quebec, Canada - www.opto.umontreal.ca/vision2008/ or <www.vision2008.ca>

10 – 13 - NOAH National Conference in Las Vegas, NV. Contact NOAH at 800-473-2310 or visit their website www.albinism.org.

21 – August 22 – Youth in Transition: Carroll Center for the Blind Summer Residential Program, in Kingsport, TN. This five-week residential program aims to strengthen organizational skills, independent living skills, and travel abilities of students with visual impairments from 15-21. Contact Margaret Cleary, 800-852-3131, margaret.cleary@carroll.org, or www.carroll.org.

22 - AERBVI MacFarland Seminar, to be held in Chicago, IL, prior to the AER Biennial Conference. Seminar will address prosthetic vision. Contact Jim Gandorf, AER Executive Director, at 877-492-2708, or jgandorf@aerbvi.org.

22 - 27 - AER International Conference, in exciting Chicago! Contact AER at 877-492-2708 for further details.

August

12 – 16 – 63rd Annual Blinded Veterans Association National Convention, to be held in Phoenix, AZ. Contact BVA at 800-669-7079 or www.bva.org.

September

5 – 6 - Envision 08: A Multidisciplinary Vision Rehabilitation and Research Conference, in San Antonio, TX. Contact Envision 316-267-2244 or www.envisionconferenceus.com.

October

23 –26 – CCB Fall Conference, to be held at the LAX Four Points Sheraton Hotel; for further information contact CCB 1-800-221-6359.

November

CAOMS Annual Conference – date and location to be determined – watch www.caoms.org for future updates.

2009

March

5 – 8 - American Foundation for the Blind National Conference (formerly known as the Jo Taylor Leadership Institute), to be held in Washington, D.C. Contact Caitlin McFeely, Communications Department AFB, 212-502-7615, or cmcfeely@afb.net, www.afb.org.

12 – 15 - CTEVH's Jubilee Conference, celebrating 50 years! This event will be held at the San Francisco Airport Marriott. For further information, contact Conference Chair, Sue Douglass, vipreteach@msn.com.

April

1 – 4 - Council for Exceptional Children Convention and Exposition, in Seattle, WA. For further information contact CEC, 888-232-7733 or visit their website www.cec.sped.org.

July

17 – 19 - Families Connecting with Families International Conference, to be held in Costa Mesa, CA. This conference is hosted by NAPVI, Braille Institute, and Junior Blind of America. Contact NAPVI at 800-562-6265 or visit their website napvi@perkins.org.

“All of us do not have equal talents, but all of us should have an equal opportunity to develop our talent.”

**John F.
Kennedy**

Association for Education and Rehabilitation of the Blind and Visually Impaired

2008 Chapter-Get-A-Member 20 For 20 Campaign

Help AER achieve its goal of 1,000 new members in the coming year. Be part of the 2008 Chapter-Get-A-Member campaign.

- Earn a \$20 bounty for the chapter treasury when you recruit a new member.
- One of your chapter member recruiters will win a free membership when your chapter membership grows by 20 percent between May 1, 2008, and April 30, 2009.
- One person will win a \$1,000 grand prize! An AER member sponsor recruiter will earn an entry in the grand prize drawing for each new member recruited.

**To be entered in this contest, new members must use the chapter membership form, which can be obtained from AER

As you think about talking with your colleagues about membership in AER, consider the following:

Benefits of Membership in AERBVI

The Association for the Education and Rehabilitation of the Blind and Visually Impaired (AERBVI) is the professional organization of the blindness field, www.aerbvi.org.

- Continuing Education opportunities: Professional Conferences, custom-designed Division Workshops, Lighthouse courses, etc.
- Awards—Peer recognition of outstanding contributions to the vision field.
- Discounted certification fees through ACVREP
- International and state-to-state connections and perspectives
- Leadership opportunities at many levels
- Legislative support - AER is our voice in Washington
- Life-long contacts with other AER members
 - Opportunities to network with a diversity of professionals in the blindness field
 - Ongoing exchange of ideas and knowledge
 - You're not alone; you're part of the bigger picture of the vision field
- "Listserves" help keep members informed and in contact with other professionals
- Member discounts on publications through AER
- AERial View keeps members informed of chapter activities and news
- Partnerships with other blindness organizations for more effective advocacy
- Professional Liability Insurance is available to members
- Publications included in membership:
 - Journal of Visual Impairment and Blindness
 - AER Journal: Research and Practice in Visual Impairment and Blindness
 - AER Report
- Reasonable Membership Fees: One Year Regular Professional membership:
 - AERBVI: \$135 US/Canada/International, plus optional division fees (\$0-15)Compared to:
 - American Physical Therapy Association: \$265
 - American Occupational Therapy Association: \$225
 - American Speech-Language-Hearing Association: \$200
- Reduced registration rates for NCAER conferences and workshops
- Scholarships and Stipends
- Supporting AER adds to our feeling that we are investing in our goals for the future of the vision field.
- And finally, being an AER member looks good on your resume!!

For submissions to the AERial View, contact Pat Leader, pleader@comcast.net, or call 408-832-4935. Next newsletter will be published in September 2008.