



# The AERial View



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

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Pat Leader, Editor

## CTEVH Edition!

### From the President's Desk . . .

Thanks to the dedication and skill of its Board and membership, I am happy to report that your Chapter is alive, well, and active in your behalf! Recent and planned activities testify to the wide-ranging interests of the membership.

NCAER and its members participate in programs dealing with everything from early childhood development to adult job placement. The Chapter uses its financial status, carefully guarded by your Board, to support member activities including conferences and participation in meetings. For example, NCAER has recently decided to support graduate student participation at the CTEVH conference, and we will be sending Vice President Lori Cassels to AER's annual leadership meeting (AERLIFT) this April.

The Board of NCAER continues to provide you with quality in-service training and continuing education options. In February, the Lowenfeld-Akeson Symposium, an annual event offered by the Blind Babies Foundation with support from NCAER, was a success. More than 100 people attended.

**NCAER's Spring 2007 program will focus on employment. Entitled, "Let's Get Working" and brought to you in cooperation with Sensory Access Foundation of Sunnyvale, the one-day event is scheduled for early to mid June and will take place at the Microsoft campus in Mountain View! This is a wonderful venue with one of the best dining facilities I've ever seen! Our Vice President, Lori Cassels, leads the planning team.**

We are indeed active in Northern California. By time you read this, two Northern Californians, Pete Wurzberger and Jim Bliss, will have received their Migel Medals from American Foundation for the Blind in a ceremony held in Santa Clara as part of the CTEVH conference. In addition, your Board has just created a scholarship in the name of Sally Mangold and in concert with the company Sally started ("Exceptional Teaching"), to assist a child from Northern California with expenses to attend the Braille Challenge Finals in Los Angeles. NCAER is further honoring Sally by purchasing a stone in her name to be placed on the Wall of Fame at the American Printing House for the Blind in Louisville, KY.

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. Our service approach is designed to increase the value of NCAER to its members and to draw newcomers to our rolls and we intend to continue to do whatever it takes to provide you the kind of service that will make a difference to your everyday working lives.

At the national level, AER is currently undertaking a review of its strategic plan. Board members and chapter leaders will gather at AERLIFT in Alexandria, VA this April to conduct information-gathering sessions that will set the stage for determining what in your professional organization works well and where it needs to strike out in new directions. As I stated in my message to you in the previous issue of this newsletter, we recognize that professionals who work with persons who are blind or who have low vision are in short supply, and each of you is special. It is the goal of AER and your Chapter to maintain and improve specialized services to the children, youths, and adults we serve as well as the professionals, family members, and others who work with and care about them.

To that end, remember that membership in AER offers you a means to provide input and to shape the direction our field is moving. 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.

*Anthony R. Candela*  
NCAER President

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*"There is a gigantic difference between earning a great deal of money, and being rich."*

*Marlene Dietrich*

## **Announcements:**

- NCAER Board welcomes these new NCAER Members: Debra Goslin and John Kingston!
- The C. Warren Bledsoe Orientation and Mobility Archives, established in 1968, by commission of the O & M Division, are being considered for moving to the APH Hall of Fame in Louisville, KY. This will add to the collection, and provide professional archival services to maintain the collection. Watch for further details of this valuable collection.
- At the July AER Conference in Snowbird, the conference was kicked off by the MacFarland Seminar on Diabetes Education. Soon these interactive educational programs will be available online. Highlighted in the seminars was the view that diabetes educators and vision professionals could work together to provide the best and complete care for their clients. Watch the AER website for progress on this valuable offering.

**The main thing is to keep the main thing the main thing.**

**Stephen Covey**

# Calendar of Events

## 2007

### March

**1 - 4 -** CTEVH 48th Annual Conference, "Check Your Resources", for Educators, Transcribers, Parents, and Professionals in the Vision Field, to be held at the Santa Clara Marriott, near Great America. For further details, contact Pat Leader, Chair, <pleader@comcast.net>.

**1 - 6 -** American Blind Skiing Association Western Trip to Alyeska Resort. Girdwood, Alaska. Contact: Karen Windell, president, American Blind Skiing Association, 2228 Grand Pointe Trail, Aurora, IL 60504; e-mail: <twoskibears@sbcglobal.net>.

**8 - 10 -** Oregon and Washington AER Chapters Conference, Red Lion Inn, Vancouver, WA. "Coming Together for a Breath of Fresh AER," is designed for Educators, Rehab Teachers, VR Counselors, Orientation & Mobility Specialists and Paraprofessionals. More details expected in January 2007.

**14 - 16 -** SOMA (Southeastern Orientation and Mobility Association) 2007 Conference, Raddison Hotel—Opryland on Music Valley Drive.

**19 - 24 -** California State University at Northridge (CSUN) Center on Disabilities' 22nd Annual International Conference: Technology and Persons with Disabilities Conference. Los Angeles, CA. Contact: Center on Disabilities, CSUN, 18111 Nordhoff Street, Building 11, Suite 103, Northridge, CA 91330; phone: 818-677-2578; e-mail: <conference@csun.edu>; web site: <www.csun.edu/cod/conf/index.htm>.

**23-24 -** American Foundation for the Blind, Josephine L. Taylor Leadership Institute. Dallas, TX. Contact: Abby Manishor, Communications Department, American Foundation for the Blind, 11 Penn Plaza, Suite 300, New York, NY 10001; phone: 212-502-7615; e-mail: <amanishor@afb.net>; web site: <www.afb.org>.

### April

**12 - 13 -** AER Board of Directors' Meeting in Alexandria, VA. Contact Jim Gandorf, AER Executive Director for further information, at 877-492-2708 or jgandorf@aerbvi.org.

**13 - 15 -** AER-Lift, AER's Leadership Conference, Hilton Mark Center, Alexandria, VA. Contact: Jim Gandorf, 877-492-2708 or jgandorf@aerbvi.org.

**14-17 -** 67th Annual National School Boards Association Conference, in San Francisco, CA. Contact: NSBA: 703-838-6722; e-mail: <conference@nsba.org>; web site: <www.nsba.org/conference/>.

### June

**30 - July 7** - American Council of the Blind National Convention. Minneapolis, MN. Contact: American Council of the Blind, 1155 15th Street Northwest, Suite 1004, Washington, DC 20005; phone: 800-424-8666 or 202-467-5081; e-mail: <[info@acb.org](mailto:info@acb.org)>; web site: <[www.acb.org/convention](http://www.acb.org/convention)>.

### July

**1 - 6** - National Federation of the Blind National Convention. Atlanta, GA. Contact: National Federation of the Blind, 1800 Johnson Street, Baltimore, MD 21230; phone: 410-659-9314; e-mail: <[nfb@nfb.org](mailto:nfb@nfb.org)>; web site: <[www.nfb.org](http://www.nfb.org)>.  
**2 - 6** - Lions Clubs International Annual Convention. Chicago, IL. Contact: Lions Clubs International Headquarters, 300 West 22nd Street, Oak Brook, IL 60523; phone: 630-571-5466; web site: <[www.lionsclubs.org](http://www.lionsclubs.org)>.  
**13 - 15** - Families Connecting with Families. Omaha, NE. Sponsored by the National Association for Parents of Children with Visual Impairments, American Foundation for the Blind, and The Seeing Eye, the national conference will cover all aspects of raising and educating a child with a visual impairment. Contact: American Foundation for the Blind, 11 Penn Plaza, Suite 300, New York, NY 10001; phone: 212-502-7600; web site: <[www.afb.org](http://www.afb.org)>.

### November

**3 - 4** - Annual CAOMS Conference - check the website for up-to-date information  
**29 - Dec. 2** - Getting In Touch With Literacy Conference in St. Pete Beach, Florida; For information <[www.gettingintouchwithliteracy.org](http://www.gettingintouchwithliteracy.org)> .

## 2008

### February

**29 - March 2** - 49th CTEVH Conference to be held at the LAX Marriott; contact Nancy Niebrugge at [nniebrugge@brailleinstitute.org](mailto:nniebrugge@brailleinstitute.org) or Peter Mansinne at [pmansinne@brailleinstitute.org](mailto:pmansinne@brailleinstitute.org), or Adama Dyoniziak, Conference Co-Chairs

### July

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

*Life is not measured by the amount of breaths we take, but  
rather by  
the moments that take our breath away.*