

Communicologist

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Communication Counts!

—by Tanya Speed, Vice President for Social and Governmental Policy

The new year is here, and I am personally asking you to make one resolution for TSHA. Can you guess what it is? MEET YOUR LEGISLATORS! Communication with our legislators this year is going to be of the utmost importance. Everyone knows what occurred during the last legislative session. As speech-language pathologists and audiologists, we need to take advantage of our legislators being home in their districts.

A 10-minute visit to their office and an occasional telephone call and/or e-mail will help establish you as a contact for our profession. Plus, the fact that you are one of their constituents will only enhance the efforts of your state association. The power you have as an individual advocate in a particular district will not be disregarded. Keep in mind that only a small percentage of constituents actually provide input to their legislators. They actually welcome this information!

Think of the *Constitution* wherein the

preamble does not confer power, but its first words, "We the People of the United States," describe the source of the powers conferred by the rest of the *Constitution*. The preamble also states the purpose of the document. One of the statements of purpose, "to...promote the general welfare," has been of great importance in the 20th century, upholding social legislation, for which no warrant could be found in the enumerated powers of Congress. As the words in the *Declaration of Independence* proclaim:

"We hold these truths to be self-evident, that all men are created equal, that they are endowed by their Creator with certain unalienable Rights, that among these are Life, Liberty and the pursuit of Happiness. —That to secure these rights, Governments are instituted among Men, deriving their just powers from the consent of the governed, —That whenever any Form of Government

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¡Viva La TSHA! It's All About Communication!

— by Tiffany Sears Leach,
Vice President for Educational
and Scientific Affairs



¡Viva La TSHA! The TSHA 2004 Annual Convention is all about communication! Speech-language pathologists and audiologists from around

the state and even a few from out of state will gather April 15-17, 2004, in San Antonio for an outstanding opportunity to learn about the most recent communication research and therapy techniques.

Many volunteers work year-round to provide such an exceptional event. Program Chair **Denise Barringer** deserves a tremendous thank you for her tedious planning. She has focused on creating a balanced program for convention attendees and

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TSHA Internet Café

— by Peggy Kipping, Co-editor, Communicologist

"In 2004, I Resolve to ..."

If you're like most Americans, the start of each new year is a time for contemplation, self-examination, and resolution making. Many New Year's Resolutions lists look something like this:

1. Lose weight.
2. Get in better shape.
3. Quit smoking.
4. Become more financially secure.
5. Do something to improve someone else's life.
6. Simplify my life.
7. Do something to take better care of my community, the environment, and/or human rights issues.
8. Improve intimate and/or other close relationship(s).
9. Volunteer.
10. Travel.

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Communication Counts

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becomes destructive of these ends, it is the Right of the People to alter or to abolish it, and to institute new Government, laying its foundation on such principles and organizing its powers in such form, as to them shall seem most likely to effect their Safety and Happiness. Prudence, indeed, will dictate that Governments long established should not be changed for light and transient causes; and accordingly all experience hath shewn, that mankind are more disposed to suffer, while evils are sufferable, than to

right themselves by abolishing the forms to which they are accustomed. But when a long train of abuses and usurpations, pursuing invariably the same Object evinces a design to reduce them under absolute Despotism, it is their right, it is their duty, to throw off such Government, and to provide new Guards for their future security."

We as speech-language pathologists and audiologists have been silent too long. It is our right and duty to protect our clients, professions, and ourselves. I urge you to make 2004 the year you get to know your legislators on a first-name basis. Make 2004 the year that "communication counts!"

iViva La TSHA!

It's All About Communication



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has shown terrific leadership in her role of guiding the hard-working program committee. Please join me in thanking the following committee chairs and the staff from the TSHA headquarters who are all intently working on the final product for the TSHA 2004 Annual Convention. Exhibits Co-chairs **Kathy Barker** and **Kristi Mahan**, Local Arrangements Co-chairs **Paul Hardee** and **April Smith**, TSHA Convention Councilor **Melanie McDonald**, Executive Director **Roy Bohrer** and Executive Assistant **Stephanie McNickle** from the TSHA state office. A special thank you to **Karen King**, **Loretta Lee**, and **Janice Stroud** who handle convention continuing education units each year. These ladies come early and stay late!

I offer a personal thank you to the professionals who submitted presentation proposals to the program committee for review and consideration. The TSHA Annual Convention is only as strong as the membership makes it. Because of the willing experts right here in our own state to share information, the TSHA Convention continues to provide quality presentations that are interesting and diverse.

Many activities and exciting sessions have been planned for this year. Last year, we kicked off 'Lunch with the Experts' for the first time. Based on the positive response, you will again have the opportunity to visit with our 2004 esteemed experts and gain CEUs. Do not miss this chance to talk informally with major speakers on Friday morning for 'Breakfast with the Experts.' **Melanie McDonald** has worked through many details to bring back the ever popular Roundtable Discussions, where leaders in specific areas will facilitate discussions at tables. The program committee has chosen hot topics that are sure to spark new ideas and productive discussion. This event is yet another chance for convention attendees to receive CEUs while brainstorming with colleagues. The TSHA Executive Board will be facilitating one of the round-tables. We want to hear from you! See the *On-site Program* for other specifics regarding round-table topics. Dealer Demos were so popular last year that they will return for iViva La TSHA! Vendors are signing up now to have a chance to promote their products or services in one-hour sessions. Take advantage of this time to view materials and products, and have the chance to talk in depth with vendors regarding specific questions.

The TSHA Executive Board, Program Committee and TSHFoundation proudly bring a number of nationally known speakers to Convention 2004! **Mike McKinley** will kick off convention with a keynote presentation entitled *Staying Alive...Wait Until You Are Dead Before You Die*. Mr. McKinley will share how to keep a positive attitude even in the midst of change and the constant pressures of paperwork and deadlines. Mr. McKinley comes to us with over four decades of

business experience. In 1981, he and his wife, Nancy, created McKinley Companies, Inc. including Thinking Publications and Alive! Alive! Associates. Don't miss this uplifting, energetic and positive presentation!

Kenneth Wolf will speak on Thursday. Wolf is the chief of communication sciences and disorders at the King/Drew Medical Center in Los Angeles. He is also a professor of otolaryngology as well as the associate dean for the educational affairs in the college of medicine at the Drew University of Medicine and Science. At convention, Dr. Wolf will present three sequential presentations that feature *Cultural Competence*. He will discuss why cultural competence is important to all clinicians, regardless of their cultural backgrounds or those of their students or patients.

Barbara Hodson will be the featured major speaker on Friday. Hodson is an author, editor, software developer, researcher, and teacher. Her accolades and awards are endless and deserving. TSHA is so fortunate to have Dr. Hodson present at Convention 2004. Her presentation is entitled *Enhancing Children's Phonological and Metaphonological Skills*. Do you have a child on your caseload with a severely impaired expressive phonological system? Dr. Hodson's presentations promise to provide sound philosophy for treatment as well as treatment techniques. Hodson's presentations are sponsored by the TSHFoundation. In addition, she will be providing a special session for students on Saturday morning. Students, you have read her books. Don't miss this opportunity to hear her speak in a presentation especially designed for you! The Executive Board would like to extend a special thank you to Dr. Hodson for generously donating half of her speaker honorarium to cover the registration costs of students who are presenting at TSHA 2004 Annual Convention. This kind gift truly demonstrates her dedication and love for students in the fields of speech-language pathology and audiology.

On Saturday **Joseph Murray** will be presenting *State of the Art Dysphagia-Evaluation and Treatment*. Mr. Murray recognizes that dysphagia evaluation is a service that is delivered daily, in large numbers, and by clinicians with unequal training. His presentations will focus on variability in the assessment and delivery of treatment for dysphagic patients. He is chief of audiology and speech-language pathology services at the Veteran's Affairs Medical Center in Ann Arbor, MI. Mr. Murray has conducted numerous workshops at hospitals and universities across the United States, Canada, and Europe. He is currently pursuing a PhD in speech-language pathology from Wayne State University and has published a book, *Manual of Dysphagia Assessment in Adults*, in 1991.

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Viva La TSHA!

It's All About Communication

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Also on Saturday, **Georgia McMann** will be providing a special presentation. McMann has been an ASHA staff member since 1971 and now works as the Director for Certification Administration. Her presentation, *Demystifying Certification*, will review new certification standards in speech-language pathology and audiology. For students, tips to assure prompt application processing and awarding of certification will be highlighted. This presentation is sure to provide a clear, concise interpretation of expectations and truly 'demystify' a process that, at times, can seem overwhelming.

Short Course topics include *Oral Motor for Speech Clarity*, *Aphasia*, *Phonology*, *Auditory Processing Disorder*, and *Pediatric Dysphagia*. Short Courses provide an intimate setting for hands-on learning. Limited seats available so sign up now!

Students, take special note of your *Preconvention Program*. The program committee along with **Brooke Dorman** and **Mary Beth Schmitt**, Student Interests Task Force, have worked to solicit speakers noted by a '101' icon. These presentations are designed for students and the beginning clinician.

The Exhibit Hall promises to be an exciting experience with a number of different vendors displaying their products. Undergraduates, are you searching for a graduate program? Don't miss University Row in the Exhibit Hall for a chance to check out information about universities around the state. We will have vendor sponsored beverage breaks, activities, exhibit hall games, and the chocoholic break sponsored by the Executive Board. Meet up with former classmates and colleagues, make new acquaintances, and gain valuable information from vendors. Stick around long enough, and you may even win a door prize!

Meet TSHA President **Lynn Flahive** at the President's Fiesta Reception Thursday evening from 6 - 7:30 p.m. out on the patio at the Henry Gonzalez Convention Center. Come and celebrate ¡Viva La TSHA! Be sure to consult your *Preconvention Program* for ticket information to the TSHFoundation Awards Dinner Friday evening. The Annual Business Meeting will be held on Friday at 11:45 a.m. Certificates of Appreciation will be awarded. Executive Board members will review what TSHA is doing for you. We welcome you and encourage you to become involved.

The spirit of volunteerism is truly the theme of each convention and, on a larger scale, the association. As you can see, these volunteers have given hours of their time and committed themselves to creating something wonderful. I challenge you to become involved in TSHA this year. There are many opportunities and places where your interests and special talents can be used. I hope that you will not miss ¡Viva La TSHA! Annual Convention 2004. Although the work is intense and the timelines can even be a bit stressful at times, the reward is so much greater. To be supported by such an incredible executive board and to hear the positive comments each year at convention keeps me coming back for more. Thank you, members and volunteers, for making each convention a success. Together, let's make ¡Viva La TSHA! the best yet. It's all about communication!

TSHA 48th Annual Convention

April 15-17, 2004

Henry B. Gonzalez Convention Center

San Antonio, TX

REGISTER NOW!

¡Viva La TSHA!

It's All About Communication!

Major Speakers:

Mike McKinley – (Keynote on Thursday)
Staying Alive... Wait Until You're Dead Before You Die

Kenneth Wolf (Thursday)
Cultural Competence

Barbara Hodson (Friday)
Enhancing Children's Phonological and Metaphonological Skills

Joseph Murray (Saturday)
State of the Art Dysphagia Evaluation and Treatment

Short Courses in:

Aphasia
Phonology
Auditory Processing
Oral Motor
Pediatric Feeding



Don't miss the popular Round Table Discussions or Breakfast with the Experts!

Students — Just for you:

Georgia McMann from ASHA
Demystifying Certification!

Barbara Hodson has generously donated one half of her honorarium to support students who have had papers accepted at TSHA for presentation!



Internet Café

“In 2004, I Resolve to ...”

Continued from page 1

Unfortunately, research indicates that as many as 80% of these resolutions go unmet. Why? They are not elevated to the status of goals. When resolutions are treated as goals and are broken into measurable, attainable steps, the odds of meeting them improve markedly.

This edition of the *Internet Café* is dishin' up a heap of helpful tools to help get you on course toward setting and keeping your resolutions for 2004.

For general information and strategies for setting and achieving goals visit the Directory of Goal Setting Web sites at <www.selfgrowth.com/goal.html> or check out the handy lists and worksheets available at <www.listorganizer.com/resolutions>.

If your goals include volunteering, giving back to the community, or doing something to improve someone else's life, remember that TSHA can help direct those efforts! Visit the TSHA site at <www.txsha.org> and fill out the Volunteer form, or donate to the TSHA Political Action Committee (TSHA PAC), or to the one of the many scholarship funds sponsored by the Texas Speech-Language-Hearing Foundation (TSHF).

Then, to help target some of your other philanthropic efforts visit <www.ministrywatch.org> or <www.give.org>.

If your goals include simplifying your life visit the PBS “100 Ways to Escape from Affluenza” Web site at <www.pbs.org/kcts/affluenza/escape/action/index.html> and the Simple Living Network site at <www.simpleliving.net/>.

To get a jump start on meeting your health-related resolutions, visit the Web site of the American Council on Science and Health at <www.acsh.org/publications/booklets/resolutions2004.html> and the Physicians Committee for Responsible Medicine (PCRM) Web site at <www.pcrm.org>.

Tackle your financial goals using the resources provided by The Women's Institute for Financial Education (WIFE) at <www.wife.org> or those available at the National Endowment for Financial Education (NEFE) Web site at <www.nefe.org>.

Want to help improve the environment or society? Find insight and ideas at <www.actsofkindness.org>, <www.heartsandminds.org>, or <www.newdream.org>. Or, if you have a soft spot for animals, view the suggestions listed on the Humane Society of the United States' Web page at <www.hsus.org/ace/15982>.

Trying to get and stay organized is a constant struggle in my home. Visit <www.organizedhome.com>, <www.organzetips.com>, or <www.inedmoretime.com> for help and practical resources.

Have you resolved to travel in 2004? Start with the UNESCO World Heritage list at <www.whc.unesco.org/heritage> or find inspiration for your learning or volunteer vacation at <www.away.com>.

Finally, here are some ideas for alternate resolutions that you might want to consider this year.

Make time for quiet reflection. Live in the moment. Keep a journal. Create. Live by your principles. Be grateful. Love unconditionally. Really listen. Visit a sick or elderly friend. Practice empathy. Adopt a homeless pet. Be alert to life's subtle messages. Breathe.

Expand your mind. Get out of your comfort zone. Vote.

Remember, elevate your resolutions to the status of goals, commit them to paper, and break them into small, measurable steps. You will be well on your way to achieving a good many of your New Year's Resolutions for 2004.



*Begin planning now for May is
Better Hearing and Speech Month!*

Visit the TSHA Web site at

www.txsha.org/products/mayisbetterspeechandhearingmonth.htm
to view the resources available to you!

May is just around the corner, so be prepared!



Consumer Coalition Ready for Elections

—by Margaret Rouquette and Carri Bower, Consumer Coalition
Task Force Co-chairs

The Consumer Coalition Task Force is busy helping our professionals and consumers gear up for election year! Look for our information booth at the TSHA 2004 Annual Convention in San Antonio. We will provide you with ways you can get your consumers involved in advocating for themselves, let you know who your local legislators are (provided the state of Texas makes up its mind first), show you how you can be a part of the “Talk to Texas” information tour, and give you resources for getting your consumers fired up to speak up. We will have some goodies, plus valuable information for you and your consumers.

Are you interested in getting involved with this fun and exciting task force? Contact **Margaret Rouquette** <mrouquette@garlandisd.net>, or **Carrie Bower** <cbowerslp@cox.net> for information.

STUDENT NEWS



My Learning Curve

— by *Bobbie Kay Smithson, Region IX Councilor, National Student Speech Language Hearing Association (NSSLHA)*

We all have heard about the learning curve! It's that monumental mountain we have to climb as we learn a new task or in my case a new job. This fall I attended my first ASHA convention and the board meeting for the National Student Speech Language Hearing Association (NSSLHA). At the meeting, I met the other nine regional councilors who represent the various areas of the United States (and surprisingly Mexico, Puerto Rico, Greece, and Canada). It was really exciting to meet all the councilors and consultants, but it was also a little intimidating and frightening as I realized how little I knew about our student association. By the end of four days of meetings, however, I felt I had a good grasp of the structure and governance of the association and a true pride in some of the NSSLHA accomplishments.

One accomplishment I want to share with you is the new *CSD Survival Guide* written by NSSLHA councilors (past president, **Marie Patton** in particular) and will be produced by Del Mar-Thompson Publishers and available in October 2004. This survival guide contains

- step-by-step advice for undergraduate, graduate, and doctoral-level students;
- rationale for why audiologists and speech-language pathologists have related curriculum;
- guidance for applying to graduate programs;
- opportunities for minority students;
- information on finding clinical fellowship positions; and
- thoughts about the characteristics of ideal professionals.

We hope this publication will benefit all levels of students. I know that I will be one of the first to order a copy!

At the meetings, I had an opportunity to talk to NSSLHA Executive Director and TSHA President **Lynn Flahive** and learned that there was a new task force for students — the Legislative Active Student Task Force. Are you a member yet? Well, I hope to be. I want to learn (there's that learning curve again!) how to advocate for the people whom I will eventually serve. While I am a student, I have the opportunity to learn procedures for working with our legislators at the state level, and congressmen and Senators at the national level to ensure that those individuals who need our services will have easy access. As soon as I heard about this task force, I accessed the Internet to find out who the congressman was from my district. I intend to write to Congressman **Henry Bonilla** and urge him to support IDEA so that school children across the nation will have adequate services. And since my goal is to eventually work in a medical setting, I will also thank him for supporting the two year moratorium on the \$1,500 cap and encourage him to eventually repeal this legislation. One of the fun things I will have the opportunity to do as a NSSLHA Councilor is to visit my congressman and Senator **Kay Bailey Hutchinson** and Senator **John Cornyn** when I go to Washington, DC for NSSLHA meetings. That really sounds exciting but I will need to understand all the issues before I go for the visit and that is why I am

grateful that TSHA has this new advocacy Task Force. I know this will help me to be educated about the laws and procedures that affect my profession.

As a member of NSSLHA, I am receiving numerous benefits. I recently learned about some more benefits that I was unaware of at the meetings that I attended. The following are the benefits that students receive when they join NSSLHA:

- two issues annually of *Contemporary Issues in Communication Sciences and Disorders* (CICSD);
- three issues annually of NSSLHA's newsletter *News & Notes*, which includes information for students including scholarship/mentorship opportunities;
- subscription to the *ASHA Leader* — latest information in communication disorders;
- subscription to one of the ASHA journals;
- reduced registration for the ASHA convention;
- access to the 'Members Only' section of the NSSLHA and ASHA Web sites;
- discounted membership to ASHA's special interest divisions;
- eligibility for the NSSLHA-to-ASHA Conversion Program with reduced ASHA dues the first year after graduation;
- eligibility for professional liability, medical, and dental insurance;
- eligibility for a NSSLHA credit card; and
- the ability to network with students in other national and international programs.

Wow! Students receive many benefits just for joining NSSLHA. Are you a member? NSSLHA has provided and will continue to provide many opportunities to learn about issues dealing with my profession.

This mountain of learning still looms ahead of me, and some days I feel as if I am at the bottom, but I know I am not. I have learned so much in the past few months about my associations and my profession. I may be out of breath from all this climbing, but I know it will be exhilarating when I get to the top.

Attention Students!

— by *Mary Beth Schmitt, Student Interest Task Force, Co-chair*

Planning on attending the state convention in San Antonio? Your TSHA leadership has worked hard to make sure this convention is stocked full of student-oriented programming, benefits, and freebies! Several high-quality presentations and seminars will be offered this year. Although you are welcome to attend any session during the convention, those that are specifically student-friendly are noted by the icon '101' next to the title.

The annual NESPA Bowl is once again scheduled for Friday morning of convention, April 16, 2004. A new game format is planned for this year. Will your school be there to challenge last year's champions? Immediately following the NESPA Bowl, TSHA Executive Board and Executive Council members will host a complimentary student brunch. The brunch is a great time to meet with other students, win terrific prizes, and refuel from all your expended energy at the NESPA Bowl!

The TSHA Exhibit Hall will feature University Row, a great place for students to learn more about graduate schools. The Exhibit Hall also has a large number of school districts and companies for those students on the hunt for a job.

Finally, make sure you preregister for convention. The two universities with the highest number of preregistered students will win cash prizes of \$150 for their NSSLHA group. See you in San Antonio!

Have You Heard the News? Matt Learns to Read!



A "Sterling" Recommendation

— by April Smith, *Sunset Review Committee Chair*

I know that many of you have heard about this terrific book, and I would like to thank TSHA and the wonderful TSHA Literacy Effort Task Force members, led by Judi Keller, for their efforts to make this book available to the children of Texas. If you haven't heard, these books are free to TSHA members to give to children and are available in both English and Spanish. Since the book was printed a few years ago, I have kept copies on hand to give to the children with whom I work, and I always have enjoyed the smiles the book has brought to their faces. It was a personal experience with a child and *Matt Learns to Read* that spurred me to share with you a special moment with a very special child.

Sterling and I began working together five years ago, just after his third birthday, when he was no longer eligible for Early Childhood Intervention (ECI) services. We began working on oral motor skills and then articulation. Work on his expressive language skills followed, but the words didn't always come out, and it was difficult for Sterling to formulate sentences to tell about things.

The summer before Sterling entered first grade at a private school, we began an aggressive approach to develop his reading skills. I knew it was time to give Sterling a copy of *Matt Learns to Read* because he could differentiate beginning and ending phonemes, identify words within a word bank, and, when given a choice, could name the letter that goes with a given sound. Sterling was excited as we lay on the floor together to read the new book. He knew it was going to be a special gift for him that day. We began by writing his name in the front of the book so we knew it was "his" book. We then read, page by page, very slowly, as Sterling was looking very carefully at all the signs Matt was learning to read we said each word—making sure to pay attention to those beginning sounds. We had read about half of the book when Sterling turned to me and, ever so thoughtfully, said, "Miss April, thank you."

Sterling is now in the second grade with some reading support at school, but he does not qualify for Special Education services. We still work together weekly, and he tells me often that he loves to read.

I first wrote this article two years ago, but it was not published at that time as the book supply was nearly depleted. TSHA has now reprinted the book, and it is once again available. Thank you to the TSHA members and leadership who made this book possible.

Matt Learns to Read — A Member Benefit for TSHA Members


— by Terri Haynes, *Public Information Distribution Task Force Chair*

The TSHA Literacy Effort task force was formed in April 1997 in response to former Governor Bush's concern about literacy in the state of Texas. The committee, chaired by Judi Keller, established two goals: produce a children's book and produce a companion piece for caregivers. These goals were achieved with the publication of the book *Matt Learns to Read* and the brochure, *Learning to Read is a Family Affair*. Both publications are available in English and Spanish.

TSHA members are eligible to receive 25 copies of the book (in English, Spanish, or a combination of both) free of charge simply by requesting the items from the TSHA state office. The brochures are available on the TSHA Web site and may be downloaded and printed by TSHA members. Non-TSHA members may receive 25 copies of *Matt Learns to Read* for \$10 to cover shipping and handling charges.

Matt Learns to Read follows a young boy's journey to his first day of school as he begins the process of learning to read. As Matt is walking to school with his friend, Rosa, he encounters many unknown symbols comprised of "circles and dashes and squiggly lines." Rosa, eager to show off her ability to read, decodes these symbols into words for Matt and attempts to teach him to read. The melodious passages and repetitive pattern of *Matt Learns to Read* make it an enjoyable experience for children.

To obtain your free copies of *Matt Learns to Read*, call 888/729-8742. Share a book with a child today!



"Tube Feeding with Love"
Marsha Dunn Klein, MEd, OTR/L

Phoenix, AZ	March 19 & 20, 2004
Chicago, IL	April 23 & 24, 2004
Denver, CO	May 21 & 22, 2004
Honolulu, HI	June 11 & 12, 2004
Boston, MA	September 17 & 18, 2004
Anchorage, AK	October 15 & 16, 2004
Seattle, WA	November 12 & 13, 2004
Houston, TX	December 2 & 3, 2004
Kansas City Area	TBA, Spring, 2005
Ft. Lauderdale, FL	TBA, Spring, 2005

For more information about each workshop site, and registration see
www.mealtimemotions.com or
Mealttime Notions, LLC,
PO Box 35432, Tucson AZ 85740

Embracing the Opportunities and Challenges of Cultural and Linguistic Diversity

— by Becky Gonzalez, Cultural and Linguistic Diversity Task Force Chair

The state of Texas is composed of many individuals who come from diverse cultural and linguistic backgrounds. For many years, TSHA has recognized the importance of addressing cultural and linguistic diversity issues. In 1983, a Bilingual Task Force focused on addressing assessment and treatment issues with culturally and linguistically diverse (CLD) populations. In the late '80s, the focus shifted to developing a plan to bring more bilingual individuals into the field and the association. In the '90s, the association worked toward infusing culturally and linguistically diverse issues into each task force that addressed professional services.

Presently, the Cultural and Linguistic Diversity Task Force initiatives focus on improving the abilities of all speech-language pathologists and audiologists to better serve children and adults from CLD populations. To this end, the task force will work to help bilingual and monolingual members access resources, information, and continuing education opportunities. The 2003-04 CLD Task Force members include **Becky Gonzalez, Lynette Austin, Marianela Blandon, Jennifer Watson, and Lynita Yarbrough.**

The CLD Corner is being created in an effort to respond to questions on cultural and linguistic diversity. Submit your questions to <becky52@houston.rr.com>. Look for responses from the CLD Task Force on TSHA's Web site and the *Communicologist*.



CLD CORNER

QUESTION

I only speak English. How can I serve children who don't speak English?

ANSWER

ASHA's position is that intervention of speech and language disorders of limited English proficient speakers should be conducted in the student's primary language. Should the primary language be one other than English, there are several options that can be implemented by a monolingual SLP when providing speech therapy services. (Resource: American Speech-Language-Hearing Association, [1985 June]. *Clinical Management of Communicatively Handicapped Minority Language Populations*. ASHA, 27 [6].) Using the services of a bilingual speech pathologist is recommended when the SLP speaks only English. A bilingual speech pathologist may be itinerant and work with only the bilingual students or the monolingual and bilingual SLP may share the delivery to bilingual students. (Resource: *Assessment & Intervention Resource for Hispanic Children*. Dr. H. Kayser, Singular Publishing Group, Inc., 1998 pp.105-108.)

Should a bilingual SLP not be available, therapy can be conducted with the assistance of a trained interpreter working with a monolingual SLP. The interpreter must be trained to work with the SLP. (Resource: *Interpreters and Translators In Communication Disorders — A Practitioner's Handbook*, Henriette W. Langdon, Thinking Publications, 2002.)

If an interpreter cannot be found, and the student's language of instruction is English, then the monolingual SLP can provide services teaching to the child's strengths as identified during the assessment and using a visual, auditory, and hands-on approach. Remember, students must be assessed in the native language. (Resource: *Hispanic Children and Adults with Communication Disorders: Assessment and Intervention*. H. Langdon & Li-Rong Lilly Cheng, An Aspen Publication

pp.272-325. *Cultural and Linguistic Diversity Resource Guide for Speech-Language Pathologists*, Brian Goldstein, Singular Resource Guide pp.104-107.) Use culturally appropriate materials at all times.

QUESTION

Can I take a child into therapy if he doesn't have a language disorder, but just has poor English?

ANSWER

Regarding the labeling of students with limited English proficiency as "speech impaired" when actually it has been determined that they are not speech impaired, TEA is very clear — this is not a legal practice. The commissioners rules of the State Board of Education state the following: §89.1230. Eligible Students with Disabilities.

(a) Districts shall implement assessment procedures which differentiate between language proficiency and handicapping conditions in accordance with Subchapter AA of this chapter (relating to Special Education Services)

In other words, the assessment results must conclude that the language problems the student is experiencing are not due solely to their status as an English language learner in order for the student to be identified and served as "speech impaired." The paperwork of ARD proceedings usually addresses this issue when it requires the committee to assure parents/students that the determination of disability has not been made solely due to a student's limited English proficiency.

ASHA's position is that speech and language pathologists may provide ESL instruction to students if they possess the necessary knowledge and skills to do so (ASHA, 1998); however, these services should be clearly identified as English as a Second Language instruction rather than speech therapy.

References

American Speech-Language Hearing Association (1998). *Provision of Instruction in English as a Second Language by Speech-Language Pathologists in School Settings*. ASHA, 40, (Supplement 18).



— compiled by Julie B. Noel, ASHA LC-TX

CMS Issues Guidance on Therapy Caps Suspension

— by Arlene Pietranton, ASHA Executive Director

With President Bush's signing of the Medicare Prescription Drug, Improvement, and Modernization Act of 2003, the cap on Part B Medicare therapy services has been suspended effective December 8, 2003, until December 31, 2005. According to the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS), payment for Part B speech-language pathology services will be paid based on the date the claim is received by the contractor, as opposed to the date the service was provided.

In December 2003, CMS issued Transmittal 42, which provides guidance on the suspension of the therapy caps. In its transmittal, CMS noted that claims for therapy services received on or after December 8 would no longer be subject to the cap. The transmittal can be found on the CMS Web site at <www.cms.hhs.gov/Manuals/pmtrans/R42CP.pdf>. For additional information, contact ASHA's director of Health Care Regulatory Advocacy, **Ingrida Lulis**, at <ilulis@asha.org> or at 800/498-2071, ext. 4482.

PowerPoint Presentation on Medicare Therapy Cap Available from CMS

— by Arlene Pietranton, ASHA Executive Director

A PowerPoint presentation entitled, *Outpatient Therapy Services — Limits* can be downloaded from the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) Web site at: <<http://cms.hhs.gov/medlearn/therapy/>>. The slides can be used to explain the moratorium on the cap to your colleagues, patients, or students. Among other aspects of the impact of the Medicare Prescription Drug, Improvement, and Modernization Act of 2003, the second slide indicates that the limits will not be applied to therapy service claims that are received on or after December 8, 2003, regardless of the date of service. For more information contact ASHA's director of Health Care Regulatory Analysis, **Mark Kander** at <mkander@asha.org> or at 800/498-2071, ext. 4139.

ED Issues Final Rulemaking for Testing Disabled Students

— by Arlene Pietranton, ASHA Executive Director

The U.S. Department of Education's (ED) Office of Elementary and Secondary Education has released long-awaited final regulations that will allow states to assess a limited number of students with the most significant cognitive disabilities against different academic standards than their peers under the No Child Left Behind Act of 2001 (NCLB) that governs programs administered under Title I, Part A, of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act (ESEA).

The biggest change from ED's March 20 proposed rule is that states will be able to set their own definition of what constitutes "students

with the most significant cognitive disabilities." The final rule also establishes a 1% cap of students with the most significant cognitive disabilities based on alternate achievement standards for the purpose of determining adequate yearly progress (AYP) of states, local education agencies, and schools. A number of school districts across the country have reportedly failed to make adequate yearly progress (AYP) solely because of special education students. The new regulations will take effect in 30 days on January 8, 2004.

ASHA is currently analyzing the regulations and will provide more information in the near future. The final rule can be viewed on the ED's Web site at <<http://a257.g.akamaitech.net/7/257/2422/14mar20010800/edocket.access.gpo.gov/2003/03-30092.htm>>. For more information contact ASHA's director of Education and Regulatory Advocacy, **Catherine D. Clarke** at <cclarke@asha.org> or at 800/274-2376, ext. 4159.

ASHA's 2004 Advocacy to Focus on Direct Access, IDEA and Doctoral Shortage

— by Arlene Pietranton, ASHA Executive Director

ASHA's 2004 Public Policy Agenda was released in conjunction with the ASHA 2003 Annual Convention in Chicago, IL (November 2003). The annual agenda prioritizes and strategically plans the advocacy activities of the Association. The issue objectives within ASHA's Public Policy Agenda are intended to address the major public policy concerns of audiologists, speech-language pathologists, and speech/language/hearing scientists before federal and state governments. This year's top three issue objectives include promoting:

- Expanded direct patient access of audiology and speech-language pathology services, including direct billing, to ensure that the work component for these services is included in Medicare fee schedule payment rates.
- Full funding and reauthorization of the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA), with specific attention given to the recruitment and retention of highly qualified personnel, reducing caseloads/workloads, promoting effective early intervention and outcomes-based practices, and providing services to culturally and linguistically diverse children.
- Federal training, financial aid, and loan forgiveness policies and funding priorities that impact recruitment and retention of PhD faculty and researchers in communications sciences and disorders graduate programs, including continued focus on racial/ethnic minority groups.

Other featured public policy priorities in the coming year for ASHA include expanding early intervention services for children with hearing loss; increasing coverage of diagnostic and rehabilitation audiology and speech-language pathology services; repeal of the Medicare outpatient therapy cap; and assisting school-based members to better identify and utilize IDEA, Medicaid, and Early Reading funding for their programs. The 2004 agenda can be viewed on ASHA's Web site at: <<http://asha.org/about/legislationadvocacy/federal/agenda/2004ppa.htm>>. For further information, contact ASHA's director of Government Relations and Public Policy, **James Potter**, at <jpotter@asha.org> or 800/271-4098, ext. 4125.

Continues on page 12

ASHA News *Continued*

ASHA's Report Card Assesses Health Plan Coverage

— by Arlene Pietranton, ASHA Executive Director

As part of ASHA's 2003 Focused Initiative on Health Care Reimbursement, ASHA developed an Audiology and Speech-Language Pathology Health Plan Report Card to assist members in:

- identifying and profiling employers and health plans offering appropriate coverage for audiology and speech-language pathology benefits;
- advocating with employers, unions, and health plans for more comprehensive coverage of audiology and speech-language pathology services;
- assisting consumers in understanding and evaluating their health plan coverage; and
- encouraging consumers to advocate for more comprehensive coverage.

ASHA's Health Plan Report Card presents a comprehensive picture of a variety of health plans by providing information on four major benefit categories:

- coverage of audiology services,
- coverage of speech-language pathology services,
- limitations to coverage, and
- provider accessibility.

Detailed coverage information for each plan can be found on ASHA's Web site <www.asha.org/members/issues/reportcard/>. Note that the coverage data represent a snapshot of a particular contract, not the only coverage offered by the health plan. For more information, contact director of Private Health Plans Advocacy, **Maureen Thompson** at <mthompson@asha.org>, 800/498-2071, ext. 4431; or by fax at 301/897-7356.

ASHA Legislative Council/Assemblies Convene in Chicago

— by Julie B. Noel, ASHA LC-TX

The "Windy City" was the backdrop for the November 2003 meetings of the ASHA Legislative Council (LC), Speech-Language Pathology/Speech or Language Science (SLP/SLS) Assembly, and the Audiology/Hearing Science (A/HS) Assembly. The following resolutions were deliberated and voted on during that time:

LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL RESOLUTIONS

LC 7-2003 — APPROVED — Approve the ASHA 2004 budget

LC 8-2003 — POSTPONED INDEFINITELY — Require CE providers to indicate on the CE application and workshop publicity the level of evidence available to support the efficacy of the clinical procedures advocated in the course

LC 9-2003 — APPROVED — Amend Section IV 4.2g of the ASHA bylaws to indicate that a [Legislative] Councilor may be removed from office if they are no longer an ASHA member in good standing

LC 10-2003 — APPROVED — Approve the document entitled *Knowledge and Skills Needed by Speech-Language Pathologists and Audiologists to Provide Culturally and Linguistically Appropriate Services*

LC 11-2003 — APPROVED — Request that the Executive Board (EB) explore the accreditation of Speech-Language Pathology Assistant (SLPA) training programs by the Commission on Accreditation of Allied Health Education Programs (CAAHEP)

LC 13-2003 — POSTPONED INDEFINITELY — Approve the ASHA Strategic Plan: 2005-2007

LC 14-2003 — APPROVED — Establish an LC Standing Committee on Affirmation Currency of ASHA Policy Documents

LC 15-2003 — REFERRED TO EB — Approve the document entitled *Augmentative and Alternative Communication: Position Statement*

LC 16-2003 — APPROVED — Recommend that the EB develop a comprehensive plan to address the issue of the reduction in the number of men entering the professions

A/HS ASSEMBLY RESOLUTIONS

LC A/HS 2-2003 — APPROVED — Approve the revised *Scope of Practice in Audiology*

SLP/SLS ASSEMBLY RESOLUTIONS

LC SLP/SLS 9-2003 — APPROVED — Approve the document entitled *The Roles of the Speech-Language Pathologist in the Neonatal Intensive Care Unit (NICU): Position Statement*

LC SLP/SLS 10-2003 — APPROVED — Approve the document entitled *Knowledge and Skills Needed by the Speech-Language Pathologist in the Neonatal Intensive Care Unit (NICU) Environment: Providing Services to Infants and Families*

LC SLP/SLS 11-2003 — APPROVED — Approve the document entitled, *Guidelines for Speech Language Pathologists Performing Videofluoroscopic Swallowing Studies*

LC SLP/SLS 12-2003 — APPROVED — Approve the document entitled, *Speech-Language Pathologists Training and Supervising Other Professionals in the Delivery of Services to Individuals with Swallowing and Feeding Disorders: Position Statement*

LC-TX Delegation Update

ASHA LC-TX welcomes ASHA members **Ellen McCarthy** (San Antonio) and **Laurie Sterling** (Houston) to the LC-TX delegation. Ellen and Laurie will each serve a three-year term (2004-2006). ASHA LC-TX bids a fond farewell to long-time delegation members **Sherry Sancibrian** and **Carol Venus**. Sherry and Carol, thanks for your leadership and wisdom during these last three years. **Julie B. Noel** was elected as ASHA SLP/SLS Assembly Coordinator for 2004. **Donise Pearson** will serve on the newly-formed LC Standing Committee on

Affirmation of Currency of ASHA Policy Documents. **Larry Higdon**, honorary LC-TX member, began his term as ASHA president on January 1, 2004.

ASHA LC-TX Welcomes Input

Interested in receiving ASHA LC-TX e-mail alerts? The ASHA Legislative Councilors of Texas invite all TSHA and ASHA members to bookmark their Web site <www.ashalctx.org> and follow the LC-TX listserv subscription instructions.

Direct comments and questions regarding ASHA-related concerns to your ASHA Legislative Councilors <ashalctx@ashalctx.org>. Members of the LC-TX 2004 delegation include **Ron Bender** <csps@wf.net>, **Gay Chalfant** <ashl@amaonline.com>, **Ellen McCarthy** <emmcCarthy@satx.rr.com>, **Julie B. Noel** <jbnoel@aol.com>, **Donise Pearson** <donise@utdallas.edu>, and **Laurie Sterling** <lsterling@aol.com>. For the latest ASHA news and information, check the ASHA Web site at <www.asha.org>.



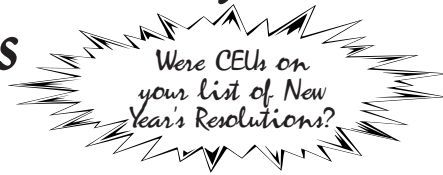
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TSHA Calendar of CE Events



FEBRUARY

- 10 Bilingual Issues and the SLP: Comprehensive Study, Part V Intervention** [5 slp] (multicultural) Doreen Gonzalez (Houston) Region IV Ed. Svc. Ctr. — Doreen Gonzalez (713/744-8138) dgonzalez@esc4.net
- 12 Speech-Language Pathologist Network: Updates, Assessment and Therapy** [3 slp] (prof. concerns) Ann Baca, Anise Flowers (Fort Worth) Region XI Ed. Svc. Ctr. — Ann Baca (817/740-7549) abaca@esc11.net
- 12 Post Concussive Syndrome Identification & Education Program** [1 slp] (neuro) Jenny Loehr (Austin) AAASLP — Ann Hillis (512/471-2018)
- 13 Assistive Tech. Team Training: Spring Update** [slp] (aug. comm.) Beth Goodrich, Angela Standridge, Theresa Tanchak (Houston) Region IV Ed. Svc. Ctr. — Beth Goodrich (713/744-6559) ttanchak@esc4.net
- 17 The Assessment, Evaluation & Programming System (AEPS)** [slp] (aug. comm.) Kristie Pretti-Frontczak (Houston) Region IV Ed. Svc. Ctr. — Jan Andreas (713/744-6321) jandreas@esc4.net
- 19 Assistive Tech. Team Seminars, Moving On: Communication** [slp] (aug. comm.) Theresa Tanchak, Cecilia Robinson, Angela Standridge (Houston) Region IV Ed. Svc. Ctr. — Theresa Tanchak (713/744-6350) ttanchak@esc4.net
- 20 Assistive Tech. Team Seminars, Moving On: Communication** [slp] (aug. comm.) Theresa Tanchak, Cecilia Robinson, Angela Standridge (Houston) Region IV Ed. Svc. Ctr. — Theresa Tanchak (713/744-6350) ttanchak@esc4.net
- 20-21 Using Technology for Students with Severe and Profound Disabilities** [10 slp] (aug. comm.) Darren Avey, Mark Ammons (Huntsville) Region VI Ed. Svc. Ctr. — Ana Deter (936/435-8247) adeter@esc6.net
- 20-21 Visual Phonics I – II: A Multisensory Approach to Literacy & Therapy** [9.5 slp] (speech) John Bond (Corpus Christi) Region 20 Ed. Svc. Ctr. — John Bond (210/370-5418) john.bond@esc20.net
- 23-24 Calendar Systems for Students with Multiple Impairments** [11 slp] (aug. comm.) Robbie Blaha (Fort Worth) Region XI Ed. Svc. Ctr. — Ann Baca (817/740-7549) abaca@esc11.net
- 25 The Ultimate Legal Guide to Disabilities Law in the Public Schools** [both] (prof. concerns) various presenters (Houston) National Educator's Law Institute — Carol Rivera (512/322-0588) nelilawl@hotmail.com
- 27-28 Dallas Branch International Dyslexia Assoc. 2004 Spring Conference** [slp] (lang/learn) various presenters (Dallas) Dallas Branch of IDA — Julie Noel (972/661-5157)
- 27-28 ADDApting to Change** [both] (lang/learn) various presenters (Irving) Attention Deficit Disorder Assoc. — Pam Esser (281/894-4932) addaoffice@pdg.net
- 28 Syndromes and Communication** [3 slp] (speech) Stephanie Huestis (Houston) Cy-Fair ISD — Elizabeth Adams (281/897-6435)

MARCH

- 3 Assistive Technology Solutions** [5.5 slp] (aug. comm.) Linda Chromaster, Peter Graves (Edinburg) Region 1 Ed. Svc. Ctr. — Ruth Solis (956/984-6264) rsolis@esconett.org
- 4 Assistive Technology Solutions** [5.5 slp] (aug. comm.) Linda Chromaster, Peter Graves (Harlingen) Region 1 Ed. Svc. Ctr. — Ruth Solis (956/984-6264) rsolis@esconett.org

- 5 Communication Skill Development for Professionals** [both] (prof. concerns) Carol Rommell (Dallas) A.S.L.P.A. — Lynn Flint Shaw (214/373-7557)
- 5 Autism and AAC — From Practice to Research** [6 slp] (lang/learn) Pat Miranda (Lubbock) Texas Tech Univ. Health Sciences — Judi Keller (806/743-5660) judith.keller@ttuhsc.edu
- 11 Sensory Integration: A Primer for SLPs** [1 slp] (lang/learn) Tere Sariol (Austin) AAASLP — Ann Hillis (512/471-2018)
- 25-26 Visual Phonics I – II: A Multisensory Approach to Literacy & Therapy** [9.5 slp] (speech) John Bond (San Antonio) Region 20 Ed. Svc. Ctr. — John Bond (210/370-5418) john.bond@esc20.net
- 25-26 Visual Phonics I-II: A Multisensory Approach to Literacy & Therapy** [9.5 slp] (speech) John Bond (San Antonio) Region 20 Ed. Svc. Ctr. — John Bond (210/370-5418) john.bond@esc20.net

APRIL

- 7 Assistive Technology Solutions** [5.5 slp] (aug. comm.) Linda Chromaster, Peter Graves (Laredo) Region 1 Ed. Svc. Ctr. — Ruth Solis (956/984-6264) rsolis@esconett.org
- 8 Therapy Swap: Materials & Methods for Clinicians** [1 slp] (prof. concerns) Marilyn Rogers, Ann Hillis, Lisa Shepherd (Austin) AAASLP — Ann Hillis (512/471-2018)
- 16 Visual Phonics I – II: A Multisensory Approach to Literacy & Therapy** [9.5 slp] (speech) John Bond (Austin) Region 20 Ed. Svc. Ctr. — John Bond (210/370-5418) john.bond@esc20.net
- 20 IEP Goals and Objectives for Students with Speech/Language Impairments** [5 slp] (prof. concerns) Ann Baca (Fort Worth) Region XI Ed. Svc. Ctr. — Ann Baca (817/740-7549) abaca@esc11.net
- 23 Assessment Procedures for Voice Recognition** [6 slp] (lang/learn) Peggi McNairn (Fort Worth) Region XI Ed. Svc. Ctr. — Peggi McNairn (817/740-7594) pmcnairn@esc11.net
- 24 Assessment Procedures for Voice Recognition** [6 slp] (lang/learn) Peggi McNairn (Fort Worth) Region XI Ed. Svc. Ctr. — Peggi McNairn (817/740-7594) pmcnairn@esc11.net
- 28-29 SEEK: Successfully Educating Exceptional Kids** [10 slp] (lang/learn) Kathy Morris (College Station) Region VI Ed. Svc. Ctr. — Nodya Thornton (936/435-8257) nthornton@esc6.net

MAY

- 3 Use of the Internet for the Speech-Language Pathologist** [5 slp] (lang/learn) Ann Baca (Fort Worth) Region XI Ed. Svc. Ctr. — Ann Baca (817/740-7549) abca@esc11.net
- 4 Private Practice: Things to Consider** [2 slp] (prof. concerns) Tanya Speed (Richardson) SPAND — Debra Kerner (469/593-7059)
- 7 Second Annual Assistive Technology Conference** [4 slp] (aug. comm.) various presenters (Houston) Region IV Ed. Svc. Ctr. — Angela Standridge (713/744-6831) amstand@esc4.net
- 13 Auditory Processing Disorder: Trends & Issues** [1 slp] (lang/learn) Ann Brown, Margaret Dean (Austin) AAASLP — Ann Hillis (512/471-2018)
- 14 Cultural Diversity: Implications for Assessment & Intervention** [6 slp] (multicultural) Elizabeth Pena (San Antonio) Region 20 Ed. Svc. Ctr. — John Bond (210/370-5418) john.bond@esc20.net

JUNE

- 29-30 SEEK: Successfully Educating Exceptional Kids** [10 slp] (lang/learn) Kathy Morris (College Station) Region VI Ed. Svc. Ctr. — Nodya Thornton (936/435-8257) nthornton@esc6.net



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May 1, 2004	June 1, 2004	Julie Noel
July 1, 2004	August 1, 2004	Peggy Kipping

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There is usually a five- to six-week period between the copy deadline and the time the membership receives the newsletter. All items must be received in writing by the deadlines shown, including an insertion order with indication of payment and start date.

Questions about submitting an ad?

Contact TSHA Headquarters at 512/452-4636, 888/SAY-TSHA (729-8742), <tsha@assnmgmt.com>, or <wstokes@assnmgmt.com>.

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Display and classified advertising may include:

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- Employers with positions available
- SLPs or audiologists offering to sell and/or buy professional goods or services
- Vendors servicing the practices of speech-language pathology or audiology
- Universities or educational/training entities offering programs or services relevant to speech-language pathology and/or audiology

Calendar of Events (For events with TSHA CE)

Bold-faced listing	\$10/issue
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Content Submissions

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- original photos for publication,
- "Around the State" items,
- Task Force reports, (after approved by monitoring Vice President),
- information on Regional Associations, and
- Texas Authors

Send submissions to:

Send questions, articles, reports, or photographs to TSHA Headquarters or the appropriate editor.

Electronic submission is preferred.

Peggy Kipping — 8700 Shoal Creek Blvd, Austin, TX 78757-6897, 512/451-3246 x663, fax 512/451-3321, or <pkipping@slpcommunications.com>

Julie Noel — 5925 Forest Ln. #517, Dallas, TX 75230, 972/661-5157 (office), fax 972/661-5173 or <jbnoel@aol.com>

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