



# ARIZONA VIEW

SEPT/OCT 2008

ASSOCIATION FOR EDUCATION & REHABILITATION OF THE BLIND & VISUALLY IMPAIRED—ARIZONA CHAPTER

**"IN THE  
PERIPHERAL  
FIELD... AZ-  
AER BITS &  
PIECES"**

**THIS ISSUE'S  
INSERTS**

**- MARGARET  
BLUHM AWARD  
HISTORY and  
NOMINATIONS  
FORM 2008**

**-VRATE / GCBVI  
ROUNDTABLE  
DISCUSSION  
INVITATION**

**-ADVERTISEMENTS  
FROM AZ-AER  
SUPPORTERS AND  
BUSINESSES**

**-FALL  
CONFERENCE  
REGISTRATION  
INFORMATION!**

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## ***PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE***

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***From Venetia Hayden***

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Dear AZ AER Members & Friends:

It's the time of year when your Board of Directors is gearing up for the November conference (*"Get Movin': Physical Fitness, Sports and Movement Activities for Persons with Visual Impairment, Including those with Multiple Disabilities"*). This year's conference promises to be outstanding. We are pleased to have a dynamic and innovative key note speaker, Duane Gerschatt. The Conference will be held at the Francisco Grande Hotel and Golf Resort on November 6<sup>th</sup> & 7<sup>th</sup>, in Casa Grande, AZ. Be sure to register early and take advantage of the early bird discount!

Please remember that the Fall conference is the time that resolutions are to be submitted to the membership for a vote. Please bring your ideas for a resolution with you and we will have the forms available at the conference. The form is very simple and helps you get the proper wording of the resolution in place. I know you all have some great ideas, and now is the time to share.

**On this year's registration form you will see a section where we ask you to specify if you primary reading medium is print or Braille. It is very important that you share this information with us. We want to make sure that we have the evaluation forms available for everyone to fill out in real time at the conference.**

We understand that some of you prefer to have the program information and other handouts electronically; however, we haven't figured out how to do the evaluations electronically, in real time, while keeping the responses confidential. Any tech gurus among us?

I hope everyone had an opportunity to take some time off over the summer and have some fun. I know that the weather in the southern portion of the state is still hot, but may be cooling down in the northern areas. I hope you guys up North make sure to let the rest of the members know when the changing color of the leaves will peak. One of my favorite things about fall is the color of the leaves.

As always, I thank each and every one of you for your dedication to our field and your unwavering persistence to provide the best services for all of our clients. I look forward to seeing all of you in November in Casa Grande.

Respectfully,

*Venetia Hayden*

**MARK THOSE  
CALENDARS!  
AZ AER FALL  
CONFERENCE  
Nov 6 &  
7, 2008 in  
CASA  
GRANDE!  
www.ed.arizo  
na.edu/azaer/  
for details!**

**CEU  
CERTIFICATES  
for the April  
workshop have  
been sent out!! If  
you did not  
receive yours,  
please notify  
Venetia Hayden  
[[venetiahayden  
@hotmail.com](mailto:venetiahayden@hotmail.com) or  
(520)405-254J]  
immediately!  
Thanks!**

***Is your team or  
agency doing  
something exciting  
for individuals with  
visual impairment?  
Don't be shy! Send  
them to Mark Brady  
for this newsletter  
and let AZ-AER  
know what great  
things you are up  
to!***

[Mark.Brady@tusd1.org](mailto:Mark.Brady@tusd1.org)

## **INTRODUCING YOUR NEW AND RETURNING AZ-AER BOARD MEMBERS FOR 2008-2009!**

**PRESIDENT VENETIA HAYDEN** has her certification as a TVI and COMS. She has been in the field of teaching those with visual impairment for eight years, having been a critical care and emergency nurse in her first career. She has worked primarily with young children through the Arizona Early Intervention Program and at the Visually Impaired Preschool Center at ASDB (Tucson). She is the parent of a visually impaired teen, and a board member of the National Association for Parents of Children with Visual Impairments (NAPVI) as the region 5 representative.

**Contact Info:** Venetia Hayden, 6525 N. Longfellow Drive, Tucson, AZ, 85718  
(h) (520) 498-1753, (c) (520) 405-2543, [venetiahayden@hotmail.com](mailto:venetiahayden@hotmail.com)

**VICE PRESIDENT HOLLY LAWSON**, TVI, CLVT, and COMS, has been working with students with visual impairment since 1994. She started at the Texas School for the Blind as a residential instructor and teacher's aide. After getting "hooked" on teaching youth with visual impairment, she pursued a Master's degree at the University of Arizona. She is a member of several professional organizations, including the Council for Exceptional Children, The American Educational Research Association, and AZ-AER. She is currently a doctoral student at the University of Arizona specializing in special education/visual impairment. Her areas of interest are public policy, transition and low vision.

**Contact Info:** Holly Lawson, 1103 W. Huron St., Tucson, AZ, 85745  
(c) (520) 808-5262, (e-mail) [hollyml@yahoo.com](mailto:hollyml@yahoo.com)

**PAST-PRESIDENT DORINDA RIFE** has been teaching since 1982, first as a high school Language Arts teacher, then a teacher and O&M specialist for school-age students who are visually impaired. Her teaching experience has dotted the west, including Oregon, Colorado, and Arizona. She has been the Principal for the Arizona School for the Blind for the past four years. Dorinda's certifications include TVI, COMS, CLVT, and Principal. She has two grown children and am now back to rearing toddlers - that is- cattle dogs. She lives in downtown Tucson and loves having a night-life!

**Contact Info:** Dorinda Rife, ASDB, 1200 W. Speedway Blvd., Tucson, AZ, 85754  
(w) (520) 770-3213, (c) (520) 971-5219, (e-mail) [drife@asdb.state.az.us](mailto:drife@asdb.state.az.us)

**TREASURER YA-JU KWO** was born and raised in a small fishing town near the southwestern tip of Taiwan. After teaching elementary school for five years in Taiwan she decided to pursue higher education in America and came to the States in 2001. Since that time she received her Master's in Special Education from University of Missouri-Columbia and as an Educational Specialist in Special Education Rehabilitation and School Psychology from University of Arizona. For the last 3 plus years she has been a Teacher of the Visually Impaired and an Orientation and Mobility Specialist for Arizona. This has been a long journey for Ya-Ju, and throughout, she has been supported by a lovely husband and a sweet 3 year old daughter. It is Ya-Ju's honor to server AZ-AER as Treasurer!

**Contact Info:** Ya-Ju Kwo, 1026 E. Mitchell St. Tucson AZ 85719  
(c) 520-248-9952, [yajukuo@yahoo.com](mailto:yajukuo@yahoo.com)

**SECRETARY MARK BRADY**, originally from the 'burbs of The Windy City, graduated with his Master's Degree in 1995 from the University of Arizona Vision Teacher Preparation Program. He has worked as a CBI High School Teacher at ASDB (Tucson), an itinerant TVI for the ASDB SER Cooperative, and is currently an itinerant TVI in Tucson Unified School District. He is in his fourteenth year working with wonderful kids! Mark achieved National Board Teaching Certification (Exceptional Needs Specialist/Early Childhood thru Young Adulthood) this past November. His interests include movies, reading, and singing. He is happy to be serving his second term as AZ-AER Secretary, and his second year as the Newsletter Editor!

**Contact Info:** Mark Brady, 6639 E. Broadway Blvd. #207, Tucson, AZ, 85710-3524  
(c) (520) 360-0642 (e-mail) [Mark.Brady@tusd1.org](mailto:Mark.Brady@tusd1.org)

**BOARD MEMBER MANUEL "MANNY" AREGULLIN** moved to the United States from Saltillo Coahuila Mexico in 1980. He attended ASDB from Kindergarten until High School where I was main streamed for part of the day. He graduated in 1993 from ASDB. He attended 2 years of college at the U of A before stepping down to find work. Over the next 11 years, he learned to use assistive technology and basic computer skills to become a well-rounded computer support technician with Real-World experience using assistive technology to find and secure employment. After leaving the computer support field, he began working for the Southern Arizona Association For The Blind and Visually Impaired (SAAVI) as Assistive Technology Specialist. He has studied Latin percussion from Cuba. The discipline and awareness necessary to play Latin percussion changed his life forever in many profound ways. It is for this reason that he believes that for some people, your aptitude with a tool, (a computer in this case) can be a vehicle to move you to a place where you can be open to a new prospective and path in life. I also believe that drumming teaches me the joy and value of being a student and to never forget the point of view of the student verses the professional. In addition to teaching through the week at SAAVI, he also teaches percussion and Cuban folkloric drumming on week nights and weekends in Tucson.

**Contact Info:** Manny Aregullin, 4909 E 2nd Street, Tucson AZ 85711  
(w) (520) 795-1331, (email) [maregullin@saavi.us](mailto:maregullin@saavi.us)

**BOARD MEMBER KAREN ARON** has been an itinerant vision teacher since 2001. She graduated from ASU in 2000 with BA in Special Education and from U of A in 2001 with MA in Special Education and Rehabilitation. She worked with the SER Coop for three years in Cochise County and has been working for Chandler Unified School District for the past four years. She has enjoyed working with the AZ-AER board as treasurer from 2003-2008 and

Arizona Center for the Blind and Visually Impaired is hosting 2 informational meetings about the Metro Light Rail project in Phoenix. The meetings will be conducted in one day, but each is geared toward different groups. The particulars are as follows:

**Date:** Friday, October 10, 2008  
**Place:** Arizona Center for the Blind and Visually Impaired  
3100 E. Roosevelt  
Phoenix, AZ 85008  
(602) 273-7411

**Times:**  
**Meeting 1: 10:30 AM**  
Geared toward consumers with visual impairments.  
**Meeting 2: 1:30 PM**  
Geared toward Orientation and Mobility Specialists.

Each meeting will run about 1-1/2 hours and will be conducted by a representative from the Metro Light Rail Project.



For information on the HANDLE program (Holistic Approach to Neurodevelopment and Learning Efficiency), please check out [www.handle.org](http://www.handle.org) or contact Kimberly Lauger at [klauger@comast.net](mailto:klauger@comast.net). She is a practitioner here in Arizona who provides information and training opportunities!

looks forward to her new position as board member. Karen is married and blessed to have a house full of life, including a soon-to-be 1 year old son, another little one on the way, two dogs, and two cats.

**Contact Info:** Karen Aron, 2248 S. Saratoga, Mesa, AZ 85202  
(c) (480) 221-7666, (e-mail) [itinerantvi@yahoo.com](mailto:itinerantvi@yahoo.com)

**BOARD MEMBER MILO BORICH** was born and raised in Iowa. He has lived in Tucson since 1973. He worked at ASDB (Tucson) for 17 years, both in the classroom and in the residential program. He also coached junior high basketball. Milo received his Master's Degree in Special Education and Rehabilitation from the University of Arizona in 1997. He has been working as a certified Orientation and Mobility Specialist at the Southwest Blind Rehab Center at the VA Hospital in Tucson for the past ten years. He has a wonderful family including his lovely wife, Barb, and his two children, Meggie and Grisha. His interests include golfing, cycling, and making beer. Milo has been a member of AER for over ten years, and would like to become more involved in this professional organization. He feels that he can provide a good perspective from his experiences working with adult services.

**Contact Info:** Milo Borich, 8721 N. Myrtle Drive, Tucson, AZ, 85704-3339  
(h) (520) 575-0468, (c) (520) 603-9344, (e-mail) [Milo.Borich@va.gov](mailto:Milo.Borich@va.gov)

**BOARD MEMBER DEB DUBY** has been a teacher for 25 years (14 years working with VI and multiply impaired students ranging in age from 3-22). The first ten years she worked as a self-contained teacher in a classroom with students with various disabilities. She received her Master's Degree from the U of A in Visual Impairment and started working for ASDB (Southeast Regional Cooperative) while living in Safford. Last year Deb's family moved to the Phoenix area and now works for the Desert Valley Cooperative.

**Contact Info:** Deb Duby, 8335 W. Pershing Avenue, Peoria, AZ, 85381  
(c) (623) 692-4044, (e-mail) [DDuby@asdb.state.az.us](mailto:DDuby@asdb.state.az.us)

**BOARD MEMBER CHRISTINA SCHOCH** is married with two children and several pets. She has been teaching for 26 years in LD, MR and the past 12 years in VI as an itinerant teacher for Marana Unified School District. She is currently working toward a doctorate in visual impairment. This is her last semester of coursework! Then she gets to start her dissertation! Christina loves horseback riding, hiking, gardening, and archaeology.

**Contact Info:** Christina Schoch, 8491 N. Redstone Place, Tucson, AZ, 85743  
(h) (520) 579-7448, (c) (520) 490-9795, (e-mail) [csschoch@comcast.net](mailto:csschoch@comcast.net)

**BOARD MEMBER RAEJEAN VEENENDAAL** In 2001, Raejean started to work for ASDB at Eastern Highland Reg'l Coop. She covers the I-40 from Joseph City to Holbrook and north on the Navajo Reservation. She enjoys working with my students and their parents. The diversity of the students keeps her on my toes, and she has learned a lot from my students. She hopes to keep learning! She graduated from Chadron State College in Chadron, NB with a BS in 1995. I received my certification for VI and my masters from UofA in 2003. She taught second grade at Loneman School in Ogalala, SD on the Lakota Reservation her first year of teaching. (1995-96). She taught at Pinon Middle School self-contained from 1996-2001. She and her husband John enjoy riding their horses. This summer they rode about 75+ miles. Her philosophy of education is to provide tools and how to use them, and let the student choose what to use in life. She encourages other to be advocates for your students and clients because everyone can use support at some time. Listen to what the parents have to say. Encourage independence in all things that the student would like try. All students can learn just at different times.  
6750 McLaws Rd Holbrook, AZ 86025 (928) 524-2493 (c) (928) 241-0944, [rveenpinon@yahoo.com](mailto:rveenpinon@yahoo.com)



### ***NOW ACCEPTING MARGARET BLUHM WORKER OF THE YEAR AWARD NOMINATIONS!***

Have you been thinking about a colleague who demonstrates a level of dedication to our field that is unsurpassed, devoted to the education and/or rehabilitation of blind and visually impaired individuals, leads by example, serves selflessly and does all this with a sense of humor? Or maybe you've been thinking about a colleague who has worked steadily and tirelessly on behalf of AZ-AER and its members for the past several months or years? Put your thoughts into action by nominating a colleague for the Margaret Bluhm Worker of the Year Award to be presented at the November AZ-AER conference in Casa Grande!

**Criteria for the award are as follows, in order of significance:**

- 1. Service to blind and visually impaired persons, primarily in Arizona**
- 2. Service to AER, primarily the Arizona Chapter**
- 3. Service to his/her profession or the "blindness system"**
- 4. Service to another special needs group or to the community.**

Please send an essay outlining the individual's contributions and accomplishments to last year's recipient, Dorinda Rife, [drife@asdb.state.az.us](mailto:drife@asdb.state.az.us) or Dorinda Rife, c/o ASDB PO Box 85000 Tucson, AZ 85754 no later than Monday, October 6th, 2008. Questions? Call Dorinda (520-403-1248) or [drife@asdb.state.az.us](mailto:drife@asdb.state.az.us). Let those who inspire you guide you!

**“You Don’t  
Need Water  
To Go Surfing”  
WEBSITES OF  
INTEREST...**

Here is an interesting new design for a camera designed for the non- visual user. Check out this site:

<http://www.yan kodesign.com/2008/08/13/this-camera-is-outta-sight/>



Visit Perkin’s Accessible Science website and view the numerous resources they have to offer for making science accessible and interesting for students with visual impairments!  
<http://www.perkins.org/accessiblescience/>

***ANNOUNCING AZ-AER SCHOLARSHIP RECIPIENTS!***

Arizona AER is proud to announce **Patty Arnold** and **Dorina Aviles** as recipients of this year’s Professional Scholarship and Student Merit Scholarship, respectively. Patty and Dorina received scholarships of \$500 each to pursue continuing education. Patty will be continuing classes in Orientation and Mobility while Dorina will be attending Pima Community College to pursue her dream of becoming a counselor. On behalf of the AZ-AER board and membership, congratulations to both of them, and we all wish them the best of luck in their endeavors! Keep checking the AZ-AER website for future scholarship opportunities for yourself, your students, or your clients!

**The Governor’s Council on Blindness and Visual Impairment**

Submitted by Ed Gervasoni

GCBVI is currently looking for new volunteer members to join GCBVI and become part of a diverse group of individuals committed to providing leadership, advocacy, and guidance that promotes opportunities for Arizonans that are blind and visually impaired. If you are interested in GCBVI membership, please contact Carolyn Maciel, Council Staff, at: [CMaciel@azdes.gov](mailto:CMaciel@azdes.gov) or by mail at: GCBVI, 1789 W. Jefferson Street, Site Code 930A, Phoenix, AZ, 85007 for more information.



**Sandra Stirnweis** was awarded the **Newcomer-Hill Award** at the International AER Conference in Chicago this past July. This award is named after two past O&M Division Chairs, James Newcomer (1985-88) and Everett "Butch" Hill (1988-90). This award is given to individuals who emulate professional dedication and service to the O&M division. Sandra is pictured here with James Newcomer.  
**CONGRATULATIONS, SANDRA! YOU ROCK!**



**The Arizona Deafblind Project – ASDB presents:  
*INTERVENER TEAM TRAINING***

Phase I: CORE TRAINING, will be available October 2, 3 and 4, 2008 (Thursday, Friday and Saturday) at The Arizona School for the Deaf and the Blind – Tucson Campus in the Apache Multi-Purpose Room. This is the 1<sup>st</sup> in a series of six workshops to train interveners, paraprofessionals, teachers, and other team members working with students with *combined* vision and hearing loss. For more announcement and registration information for yourself or your colleagues, please contact Cindi Robinson at [CRobinson@ASDB.STATE.AZ.US](mailto:CRobinson@ASDB.STATE.AZ.US) and take advantage of a great learning opportunity!



**Microphthalmia/  
Anophthalmia  
Parent Support  
(MAPS) has a  
wonderful  
newsletter  
available  
online! Visit  
their website at  
[www.maparent  
support.com](http://www.maparentsupport.com),  
and read great  
articles written  
by and for  
concerned and  
involved  
parents!**



**Check out the new  
website of AFB and  
NAPVI Family  
Connect!  
[www.familyconnect.  
org](http://www.familyconnect.org)**



**Teachers:**  
Considering  
becoming a National  
Board Certified  
Teacher? Pre-  
Candidacy classes  
and Candidate  
Support Providers are  
available throughout  
the state of Arizona.  
Check out Arizona K-  
12 Center's website  
[www.azk12.org](http://www.azk12.org) and  
the National Board for  
Professional  
Teaching Standards  
website,  
[www.nbpts.org](http://www.nbpts.org) for  
details on this great  
journey!

## **DEPARTMENTAL UPDATE FROM THE UNIVERSITY OF ARIZONA'S SPECIALIZATION IN VISION PROGRAM!**

(Pictured front row: Dr. Irene Topor, Pamela deSteiguer, Dr. Jane Erin  
Back row: Dr. Penny Rosenblum, Dr. Kathy Zwald)



Hello, AZ-AER Colleagues! We are looking forward to seeing many of you at the upcoming fall conference. It's always a great time for us to reconnect and visit with people who have gone through our program at different times.

In May, Dr. Ian Stewart retired as Coordinator of the Orientation and Mobility program, and we wish him many new adventures as a retiree. We are very pleased to welcome Dr. Kathy Zwald as the new coordinator of our

Orientation and Mobility programs. Dr. Zwald has many years of experience as an O&M specialist, and has most recently been employed as Supervising Teacher with the Academic High School and Middle School program at the Tucson campus of ASDB. She will be working with 6 O&M students on campus, 7 in Phoenix, and 4 students who are completing the three-year summer program. She's hit the ground running and is making us all laugh!

We are busy writing two federal grant applications which are due in early October. One of these is a proposal to continue our on-campus TVI program, with a Nevada-based outreach program. Thank you to the many TVIs, COMS, and administrators who completed our on-line or paper version of our needs survey, written letters of support, joined our advisory board and/or provided us with information to include in the grant. The federal grants have become very competitive, and it is important that we provide clear evidence of the need for professionals in our state and in the Southwest. The second grant is a collaborative grant with Western Michigan University that would allow us to extend our O&M services to Kansas, Nebraska, North Dakota, and South Dakota. Dr. Annette Skellenger will be the Principal Investigator of this grant, and if it is funded she will be spending more time in Arizona, where she plans to retire eventually.

Drs. Erin and Rosenblum are busy teaching the beginning Braille course to students on-campus and in Phoenix. The Phoenix group includes 14 new students who began their study to become TVIs in the summer of 2008, and there are still some stipends available for qualified individuals who want to begin the program next summer. Dr. Topor is the coordinator of the new Phoenix program; please pass along her email address ([ilt@u.arizona.edu](mailto:ilt@u.arizona.edu)) and phone number (520-626-3863) to anyone who may be interested in applying to the Phoenix TVI program. Pam de Steiguer continues to keep us all organized and on track...we are so fortunate to have her as our administrative coordinator. She'll be celebrating a major birthday this month but we won't tell you which one...25, perhaps?

Have an exciting and productive fall with your students and clients! We appreciate your continuing efforts to support our work to prepare high quality professionals for our state!

Jane, Irene, Penny, Pam, and Kathy

## **INFORMATION FROM THE NATIONAL LEVEL OF AER**

Submitted by Tony Candela, Incoming Chair, Council of Chapter Presidents

### **ANNOUNCEMENT OF NEW O-&-M LISTSERV!**

AER is administering the OandM listserv formerly run by MSU. All who were part of the listserv prior to June 10, 2008, have been transferred into the new system.

The new address is [OandM@lists.aerbvi.org](mailto:OandM@lists.aerbvi.org). Please be sure to update your address books and/or your automatic outlook address cache. The listserv at MSU has been shut down. Posting to the old listserv address will return an error message that includes the new AER listserv address. The listserv archives will be available through AER.

For questions about the rules for the new listserv, please contact Karen Wheeldon [kadazy2003@yahoo.com] OandM Listserv Moderator. Thanks for participating in this wonderful, collaborative opportunity!

At AER-Lift [AER Leadership Conference] in Dallas this year we all worked together brainstorming ideas to accomplish our Strategic Plan. We've finally consolidated those ideas you gave us and listed them by goal below.

As you know the three key strategies in our strategic plan are: 1. Improve Communication, Internally and Externally 2. Ensure Financial Stability and a Balanced Budget and 3. Grow Membership Numbers Significantly.

Here are the top goals you came up with for AER Chapters. By implementing these goals at the chapter level you are helping the entire AER family.

#### ***GOAL 1 : Improve the Value of Membership at Chapter Level***

- . Seek a better balance between rehab and education in Chapters (on board, at meetings, etc)
- . Improve Communication of benefits
- . Recognition for members (service pins, gifts, letters, plaques)
- . Significant difference in conference fees for members and non-members
- . Restrict newsletters and other communication to members only
- . Restrict some parts of Chapter website to members only
- . E-Mail blasts for info, etc. to members only
- . Awards, scholarships, grants only available to AER members
- . Professional development conferences and workshops
- . Go back to hard copy newsletters so they get to just members

#### ***GOAL 2 : Increase Membership***

- . Give names to National of non-members/lapsed members who attend meetings/conferences
- . Social events as recruitment tool; get members to bring non-members
- . Make sure conferences cover all areas of specialized services
- . Recruitment incentives
- . Give special pins on nametags to non-members so members will see who to recruit for member-get-a-member program



### **JOB OPENING IN MESA PUBLIC SCHOOLS – BRAILLIST**

**Job Code AZ820 Brailist  
Student Services- 1025 N. Country Club**

**Salary Range:** 29-1, \$13.00  
**Term:** 9.25 months  
**FSLA:** Non-Exempt  
**Benefits:** Sick leave, holidays, retirement, workers' comp, life, health, dental and vision insurance

#### **Position**

To enhance and facilitate the delivery of services to visually impaired students by transcribing into the appropriate Braille method and enlarging printed educational materials, producing audio formats and creating tactile graphics; to train assigned personnel in Braille transcription; to coordinate the delivery and receipt of materials to schools.

#### **Supervision**

Area Director, Itinerant Services

**Letters  
Needed for  
LOUIS  
BRAILLE  
Postage  
Stamp!**

Your assistance is needed in an attempt to get the U.S. Postal Service to insure a Louis Braille Commemorative stamp in 2009. This stamp would be issued in recognition of the 200th anniversary of the birth of Louis Braille. The U.S. Postal Service indicated that they would consider the issuance of a stamp; so, since the stamp would have to be approved and produced in 2008 for release in 2009, we need to ask them to finalize the decision and issue a Louis Braille Stamp in honor of the man who brought literacy to all people who are blind around the world.

**Please add your voice to the request by sending your letter to:  
U.S. Postal Service,  
Citizen's Stamp Committee,  
Stamp Development,  
475 L'Enfant Plaza, SW, room 5670,  
Washington, DC 20260-2436.**

**Qualifications**

- High School education or equivalent required
- Library of Congress Literary Braille Transcription Certificate required; Nemeth code and Spanish desired
- Valid Arizona driver's license
- Experience with Braille transcription and Braille graphics
- Knowledge and experience with braillewriter and other Braille related equipment
- Knowledge, training and experience with visually impaired students
- Computer proficiency to include use of basic software applications (Word, Excel, etc) and Braille software applications
- Ability to train assigned personnel in the proper usage of Braille methods and equipment
- Ability to organize, prioritize and meet deadlines while working with frequent interruptions and minimum supervision
- Ability to communicate effectively (verbal and written) and to establish and to maintain effective and cooperative working relationships

**Essential Duties**

- Transcribe educational materials into appropriate Braille method utilizing computer software or braillewriter; proofread to ensure proper use of punctuation, context and accuracy of content
- Operate large print copier to prepare enlarged educational materials (i.e. worksheets, assignments, district tests, etc)
- Translate, read and write in Grade 1 and Grade 2 Braille
- Produce Braille graphics and non-computer tactile materials
- Produce audio-taped materials
- Interline Brailled materials for sighted individuals
- Prepare and translate math and science materials using Nemeth code
- Train Brailist Assistants in the various techniques and equipment utilized for Braille transcription
- Coordinate and schedule timelines and deadlines for materials to be transcribed in accordance with student needs
- Organize the timely receipt of student work and materials
- Assist visually impaired students in classroom during assigned teacher's absence

**Marginal Duties**

- Assist other personnel as may be required for the purpose of supporting them in the completion of their work activities

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**TUCSON AREA JOB ANNOUNCEMENT- REHAB. TEACHER**

The SOUTHERN ARIZONA ASSOCIATION FOR THE VISUALLY IMPAIRED (SAAVI) is seeking a **REHABILITATION TEACHER!**

**BASIC JOB SUMMARY:** Teach individual and group adaptive living skills, low vision information and coping skills; maintain records of all work completed; facilitate community workshops and community and home based training.

**SUPERVISION RECEIVED:** Associate Director

**SUPERVISION EXERCISED:** None

**MINIMAL QUALIFICATIONS:**

1. ACVREP/AER certified – bachelors or masters in Rehabilitation Teaching
2. Minimum of two years experience in blindness or visual impairment (can be concurrent with education) or formal education in the field of blindness, or previously under SAAVI internship
3. Thorough understanding of adaptive equipment
4. Experience advocating for individual.

If interested, and for additional information, please e-mail your résumé to SAAVI Associate Director Amy Murillo-Hicks at [amurillo-hicks@saavi.us](mailto:amurillo-hicks@saavi.us) or call at (520) 795-1331x321. Please note, only electronic résumés will be accepted.

**Some Things to Think About:**

***"In youth we learn; in age we understand."  
--Marie Ebner-Eschenbach***



***"The whole purpose of education is to turn mirrors into windows."  
--Sydney J. Harris***



***"Challenges are what make life interesting; overcoming them is what makes life meaningful."  
--Joshua J. Marine***



***"Nothing is more powerful and liberating than knowledge."  
--William H. Gray III***

**RECRUIT A BRAND-SPANKING NEW AER MEMBER...  
AND ENTER TO WIN \$1,000! YES, \$1,000!**

Recruit a new member and receive an entry in the grand prize drawing of \$1,000 for each new member you recruit. A new member is defined as an individual who has never held an AER membership or whose membership was not active after Sept. 1, 2007. Annual renewals are ineligible.

-To qualify for the \$20 chapter bounty, member applications must be submitted on the AZ AER special chapter application, available on the AZ AER website.

-Chapter members who recruit new members should enter their name in the "Referred by" section of the AER application. A chapter member who recruits/sponsors a new member for the Chapter-Get-A-Member Campaign using the special Chapter application will earn one entry for each new member for a grand prize drawing of \$1,000.

-The name of the person recruited will also be entered one time into the grand prize drawing of \$1,000.

-To receive credit for each new member, the AZ AER chapter must submit completed special chapter applications with payments to AER. The sponsoring member can be any *active* chapter member. The chapter membership chairman, new member or sponsoring recruiter must designate the sponsoring recruiter in the "Referred by" section of the AER application. If more than one individual refers a candidate who later joins AER, the first sponsor referral will receive the credit. A new member is officially credited to the sponsor recruiter when the candidate is accepted for membership and dues have been received.

-If AZ AER meets its goal of 20 percent growth in new members by April 30, 2009, all active AER chapter members who recruited/sponsored new members within the designated time frame will be entered into a drawing for a free one-year membership. Only those members whose names appear in the AER database as sponsors will be eligible. Rules and prizes are subject to change by AER.

**Grand prize drawing for \$1,000 will be held on or after May 15, 2009!**



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