



THE Volunteer Voice

a publication of the Tennessee Branch of The International DYSLEXIA Association

TN IDA Bills Rick Lavoie as R.I.S.E. Keynote

FALL 2006 EDITION

page 2

- Scenic Land School, region 3

page 3

- The Merits of Camp Spring Creek, region 2

page 4

- The President's Message

page 5

- Success Story, region 6
- 15 Seminars Share Dyslexia Information, region 6

page 6

- Place mat Project, region 6
- KY Legislation, region 6
- New Representative, region 2
- New Member Welcome

page 7

- Membership Application

Make plans now to attend R.I.S.E., TN IDA's annual statewide conference about dyslexia and other learning differences, on April 14, 2007. R.I.S.E. is "Reading Instruction Successfully Enhanced."

Watch the mail for your conference program!

Murfreesboro, TN--The Tennessee Branch of the International Dyslexia Association (TN IDA) will feature Richard Lavoie as its 2007 R.I.S.E. Conference keynote speaker. The conference will be Saturday, April 14, 2007, at Currey Ingram Academy in Brentwood, Tennessee.

Rick has delivered his message to over 500,000 parents and professionals throughout North America. He has the distinction of having delivered keynote addresses for all three of the major special needs advocacy organizations in the United States (Learning Disabilities Association, Council for Exceptional Children, Children with Attention Deficit Disorder). In addition to his speaking laurels, Rick is also a consultant on learning disabilities to several agencies and organizations including Public Broadcasting Service (PBS), the *New York Times*, and the National Center for Learning Disabilities.

Since 1972, Rick has held administrative positions at residential programs for children with learning disabilities. These experiences have provided Rick with a "living laboratory" in which he developed and refined his methods and philosophies. He also holds three degrees in Special Education and has served as an adjunct professor or visiting lecturer at numerous universities.

Rick is probably best known for his videos "How Difficult Can This Be?: The F.A.T. City Workshop" and "Last One Picked, First One Picked On: The Social Implications of Learning Disabilities". After viewing the videos, former First Lady Barbara Bush stated, "You really wowed us! I only wish that every parent and teacher in the United States today could also see your program."

In July 2006, Lavoie came to Tennessee as a guest speaker to Currey Ingram Academy. The two days of his presentation focused on his latest book, *It's So Much Work to be Your Friend* (Touchstone 2005). The book offers practical strategies to help learning disabled children ages six through seventeen navigate the treacherous social waters of their school, home, and community. Visit www.ricklavoie.com. •



R.I.S.E.
logo

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Scenic Land School Gives THANKS; Brings the “Fonz”

by Region 3 VP Mary Brown

Region 3—Thanks to the efforts of TN IDA Region 3 volunteers, southeast Tennessee has a busy fall calendar. Each of the diverse activities raises awareness for dyslexia and communicates the challenges and successes of the individuals learn differently.

On September 9, Scenic Land School and Memorial Hospital hosted a reception featuring Henry Winkler, better known as the “Fonz.” Mr. Winkler, a Yale graduate, is an outspoken advocate who has worked extensively to educate the public about the needs of children with learning disabilities. He has co-authored the critically acclaimed *Hank Zipzer* series, which follows the everyday adventures of a bright boy with learning challenges.

As a community service project on September 11, Scenic Land students served an early THANKSgiving dinner to local and state law enforcement and fire personnel. Every year, the school holds this event to thank the brave men and women who protect and serve the community and provide schools with educational programs. On the menu, from noon until the food ran out, was roast turkey, fried turkey and various side dishes, all served by the students themselves. Students also honored their invited guests with T-shirts donated by Bushmaster, Inc.

Thanks to a grant from TN IDA, books have been purchased, an area designated and shelving set up in Scenic Land

School’s new facility for a Regional Resource Library. On October 1st, as a kick off for Dyslexia Awareness month, Scenic Land will publicly announce and promote the opening of the first, and only, resource library on dyslexia in the tri-state area. This regional library will



Scenic Land School students honor local law enforcement and fire officials

hold an abundance of information on dyslexia and will be a wonderful resource for the people of southeast Tennessee.

Throughout October, Scenic Land will offer a free dyslexia screening to any child in the tri-state area. Postcards will be sent out to various doctors, psychologists and educational facilities in the area to inform them about this public service. Two years ago the school initiated the screening program to kick off Dyslexia Awareness month in the Southeast region. Since then, the Scenic Land staff has screened over 250 children for dyslexia. •

The Merits of Camp Spring Creek

by Region 2 VP Susanne McWilliams
with Susie van der Vorst of Camp Spring Creek

Region 2--I would like to tell you about my summer spent with Camp Spring Creek in Bakersville, North Carolina. Once again, I tutored at the camp along with two other tutors. Tennessee is lucky to be so close to a summer camp for students with dyslexia.

Throughout the summer, children attended the camp from Tennessee, Georgia, and as far away as Wilmington, North Carolina. By attending camp for six weeks, many of the children made one to years gain in their reading.

In a nutshell, here's a day in the life of a Camp Spring Creek experience:

- 1 hour of reading (30 minutes reading orally to an adult and 30 minutes using RFBD books on CD)
- 1 hour of one-on-one Orton Gillingham tutoring
- 1 hour of independent stud hall with assignments individually created for them based on their needs
- 1 hour of typing and written expression in a small group setting
- 1 hour of swimming lessons
- 1 hour of art lessons
- 1 hour of outdoor activities

It is amazing what kids can accomplish during a six-week period. You can visit the camp by contacting Susie van der Vorst at susie@campspringcreek.org. or 828-231-3765. From October 15-22, Susie will be holding a week-long training at the camp for anyone wanting an Associate Level in Orton-Gillingham.



Meet Chris and Xander Ellenbogen, Camp Spring Creek lifeguards, counselors, and role models for kids with dyslexia.

Editor's Note--Camp Spring Creek hired Chris and Xander as its first staff members. Says Susie van der Vorst, "They have been an integral part of the camp. We feel it is important for our campers to have role models around who personally understand what they are going through."

The camp seeks to hire bright men and women who are experienced within a field (e.g., rock climbing or horsemanship) and who have stepped out of the difficulties of their learning disability and into the fortunes dyslexia offers. Both Chris and Xander are dyslexics who have overcome their difficulties, and they can share that with the campers. •

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TN IDA accepts paid advertising in the Volunteer Voice, however, TN IDA does not endorse any specific product, school, teaching method, publication, technology, etc. Furthermore, TN IDA encourages careful evaluation of any program before subscribing to its principles. Remediation for individuals with dyslexia is not one-size-fits-all.

IDA & TN IDA Position Statements

Likewise, IDA does not endorse any specific program, speaker, product, or instructional material, noting that there are a number of such which present the critical components of instruction as defined by IDA. IDA supports efforts to provide individuals with dyslexia with appropriate instruction and to identify these individuals at an early age.

The President's Message by Caresa Young

As we begin a new school year, I am humbled by the opportunity to lead such a progressive organization. Prior to my current position in the Tennessee branch of IDA, I served for three years as Secretary. I have been amazed at the amount of work that a small set of volunteers can complete. It's a testament to the dedication that we all feel for people with reading challenges.

In addition to my role at TN IDA, I have two children, Tyler, age 14, and Jenna, age 8. I am also the Coordinator of the Vanderbilt Kennedy Reading Clinic and a Ph.D. student under Dr. Doug Fuchs at Vanderbilt University.

In April of this year, I attended the IDA branch council meeting in Baltimore, Maryland. This meeting was for all state branch Presidents to come together, share ideas, and further the mission of IDA. I am pleased to report that the activities of the Tennessee branch were competitive with larger states such as Texas and California. In fact, leaders from both of those states, in particular, took notice of the wonderful things going on in Tennessee. I returned from the meeting invigorated and ready to take on the challenge of leading our Tennessee branch.

My goals as President for the next three years are to increase membership in the organization, make sure that state leaders are aware of the unique challenges that face students with dyslexia, and to educate teachers, parents, and the general public about dyslexia. We have several new board members who will

begin their service this year, not to mention those who have worked tirelessly for many years. As a group, we are all dedicated to the TN IDA mission, which is to be committed to children and adults with dyslexia, their family members, and their educators. We have the tools, the research, and the know-how to teach reading to all people. I plan to do my part to make sure that these tools are implemented state-wide.

It's not too early to plan on attending next year's R.I.S.E. conference on April 17, 2007. The acronym "R.I.S.E.," which stands for "Reading Instruction Successfully Enhanced," is the theme for our annual, statewide conference. We have an exciting, informative program planned. For the fourth consecutive year, the conference will be held at Currey Ingram Academy in Brentwood, just south of Nashville.

The IDA National Conference is November 8-12 in Indianapolis, Indiana. We have several board members attending the conference and two of our board members will be presenting. If you are planning on attending the national conference, please join other Tennessee attendees for a dinner on Thursday night. Just let us know you are coming. •

Editor's Note: *Every effort has been made to ensure the accuracy of this publication. If, however, there are any errors, please accept our sincere apologies and notify the Editor.*
Editor: Liz Llewellyn
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Submission Deadline: *For the next issue, please submit all news, photos, and paid advertisements by March 1, 2007.*

Region 6 Dyslexia Success Story

by Advisory Board Member Mary Sue Leach

Region 6--Our small club in west Tennessee awards scholarships each year to a deserving high school senior. Four years ago, when I served as the State GFWC Education chairman and as vice president of Northwest Tennessee International Dyslexia Association, I suggested to our club that we award the scholarship that year to a promising dyslexic student.

The student selected was Carrie Lodge, daughter of the Reverend Arthur and MRs. Lodge, First Presbyterian Church,

who had received early tutoring in the Orton-Gillingham Multisensory Method in Richmond, Virginia. After moving to Paris and entering the public school, she received additional tutoring in the Shedd APSL program.

On May 13, 2006, Carrie received a Bachelor of Science degree in Learning and Behavior Disorders from Kentucky's Murray State University. What a great teacher in Special Education she will be!

Carrie is proof positive of what belief in these children can do to help them achieve their potential. All of us from the Janusette Delphian Club heartily congratulate Carrie, her parents, and Murray State University with the following quote: "If you have a learning difference, the difference is personal. The diagnosis is clinical. The solution is educational. The human potential is extraordinary."•

Paul Thompson Represents TN IDA Across the State of Kentucky

by Treasurer Paul Thompson

Region 6--Last April, Dr. Paul Thompson and his staff at the Shedd Academy in Mayfield, Kentucky, decided to be more than a little innovative.

As Thompson had noted previously, there were a number of professionals wishing to learn more about dyslexia and potential treatment methods in Kentucky. Unfortunately, no one seemed to be providing such services, which is where the Shedd staff knew they could contribute effectively. As a result, they designed a series of 15 seminars to be held in 15 Kentucky communities during June.

Early in the planning stages, their largest concern was attracting enough par-

ticipants. In order to pay for all the travel, motel, food and conference sites, a minimum seminar total of 70 and 80 participants was needed. Fortunately for Thompson and the staff at Shedd, things began to unfold in a most desirable way.

First, they received permission from Kentucky's Department of Education to link Educational Instructional Leadership Act credits with all 15 of their seminars. With this bureaucratic nod, people who attended the Shedd seminars would earn valuable professional development credits. Then, later in the summer, the Kentucky Speech and Hearing Associa-

Interested in MEMBERSHIP?

Anyone interested in IDA and its mission can become a member. IDA has more than 13,000 members in 40 branches throughout the United States and Canada as well as national affiliates in Brazil, the Czech Republic, Israel and the Philippines.

IDA Membership Benefits

- *Perspectives*: a quarterly periodical containing articles authored by professionals in the field, includes special section for parents
- *Annals of Dyslexia*: A biannual peer-reviewed journal
- Affiliation with one of IDA's local branches (45+ in U.S. and Canada)
- Access to a network of professionals and special notification of timely events
- Discounts on IDA conferences, workshops, and publications
- Listing in IDA's Referral for Services Database (when applicable)
- Advertising opportunities for "Non-Profit" and "For-Profit" member organizations

Welcome New TN IDA Members

The following members joined TN IDA between February 1 and August 11, 2006. Welcome!

Shawn Armstrong
Columbia, TN

Betty Blanton
Lenoir City, TN

Donna Brigham
Cordova, TN

Leslie Crabtree
Morningville, TN

Deborah Gentry
Murfreesboro, TN

Brenda Graves
Speedwell, TN

Desa Hasse
Brentwood, TN

Johnnie Sue Hawley
Jonesborough, TN

Regena Hudson
Scottsville, KY

Julie Martinez
Sevierville, TN

Allison McAvoy
Chattanooga, TN

Brian Meehan
Nashville, TN

Paula Nickels
Kingsport, TN

Jayne Ogle
Knoxville, TN

Cheryl Romaine
Nashville, TN

Louise Ann Williams-Owen
Smithville, TN

-tion (KSHA) also approved the seminar for their members' professional development units.

By the close of the 15th seminar, nearly 260 classroom teachers, speech-language pathologists, school psychologists, administrators, and special education teachers attended the one-day trainings. At every seminar, Thompson was struck by the message his group received from teacher after teacher: they really want training. Many teachers said, for example, that they want to implement multisensory teaching strategies in their classrooms and be able to modify their instructional models. But instead, what they typically encounter is a lack of ad-

ministrative support. To help fill this void, the staff at Shedd hopes to continue their teacher training programs this year.

In addition to the valuable information learned through the seminar syllabus, participants received information about the IDA and TN IDA. Several audience members shared previous knowledge of our Tennessee Branch, and a couple had even attended our annual R.I.S.E. conference. It was great to hear the people who had experienced R.I.S.E. tell other participants of its value and importance. Some even called our conference one of the best they had ever attended, and many encouraged others to attend. •

IDA Grant Funds Place mat Project

by Region 6 VP Ruth Lature

Region 6--VP Ruth Lature wrote a grant to IDA for place mats to promote TN IDA and its programs for dyslexics available in Region 6. The place mat will be used in restaurants in Region 6. With slight editing, the place mat design could be adapted for other areas. •

Region Six "Gearing Up" for KY Legislators

by Region 6 VP Ruth Lature

Region 6--Region 6 is gearing up for the 2007 KY Legislative session. Last session, a bill to put the word "dyslexia" into law passed the House (92-0), but failed to get out of the Senate Education Committee near the session's end. These

Region 2 Welcomes Betty Blanton

by Region 2 VP Susanne McWilliams

Region 2--From the Smoky Mountain Region, do we have some news! We have a new representative in Betty Blanton. We want to welcome her and thank her for accepting the invitation to be part of TN IDA. Betty has a diverse background and experience that has already proven helpful at our first board meeting. •

efforts made lawmakers more aware of dyslexia and unmet student needs, and several Legislators in Western KY are committed to helping our children.

In other news, VP Ruth Lature attended a one-day workshop in Louisville, KY, on August 4, which was presented by Wright and Wright, noted attorneys who successfully argued the Shannon Carter case before the Supreme Court. •

IDA Membership Application

1. New Member Information: please print.

Name _____

Organization _____

Address _____

City _____ **State** _____ **Zip** _____

Phone (H) _____ **Phone (W)** _____

email address _____

2. Please check all categories that describe you & circle the one

<input type="checkbox"/> Advocate	<input type="checkbox"/> Parent/Family Member of an Individual with Dyslexia
<input type="checkbox"/> College Student	<input type="checkbox"/> Physician
<input type="checkbox"/> Educational Administrator	<input type="checkbox"/> Post-Secondary Educator
<input type="checkbox"/> Educational Diagnostician	<input type="checkbox"/> Psychiatrist
<input type="checkbox"/> Educational Psychologist	<input type="checkbox"/> Reading Specialist
<input type="checkbox"/> Educational Therapist	<input type="checkbox"/> Researcher: Educational
<input type="checkbox"/> K-12 Educator (non-special education)	<input type="checkbox"/> Researcher: Medical
<input type="checkbox"/> General Supporter	<input type="checkbox"/> SLP
<input type="checkbox"/> Individual with Dyslexia	<input type="checkbox"/> Special Education Educator
<input type="checkbox"/> Lawyer	<input type="checkbox"/> Tutor

category that best describes your reasons for joining IDA.

3. Payment Information

My check is enclosed and made payable to The International Dyslexia Association.

Charge my credit card: AMEX / DISC / MC / VISA

Account Number _____

Expiration Date _____

Name on card (please print) _____

Signature _____

4. Membership Levels: please check one.

<input type="checkbox"/> Individual	\$70
<input type="checkbox"/> Individual/Sustaining	\$150
<input type="checkbox"/> Individual/Supporting	\$300
<input type="checkbox"/> Family++	\$110
<input type="checkbox"/> Lifetime	\$2,000
<input type="checkbox"/> College Student*	\$40
<input type="checkbox"/> Retired**	\$45
<input type="checkbox"/> Institutional^	\$395
<input type="checkbox"/> Corporate (Level 1) +	\$295
<input type="checkbox"/> Corporate (Level 2) +	\$795

* Copy of student ID required

** 65+ and not employed full-time

^Copy of non-profit status required

+Only for-profit organizations are eligible for Corporate Levels

++Family eligibility: adult(s) and children under 18 years of age who, together, reside in a household unit.

5. By signing this form, I certify that I (or the corporate entity) qualify for the membership level checked above.

Signature _____

Date _____

6. Membership Mailing List Rental: Periodically, the IDA membership list is made available to other organizations whose products or services we think our members may find of interest.

check here if you **do not want** your contact information included on the Membership Mailing Rental List.

7. LD Service Provider Database: IDA maintains a list of service providers for people who contact us for resources. Your listing will remain active as long as your membership is active.

check here if you **would like** to receive an application for the LD Service Provider Database.

Mail application and payment to:

The International Dyslexia Association
8600 LaSalle Road, Chester Bldg., Suite #382
Baltimore, MD 21286-2044

Questions about IDA membership?

fax: (410) 321-5069 • phone: (410) 296-0232
email: member@interdys.org • web: www.interdys.org

IDA Mission Statement: The International Dyslexia Association (IDA) is an international organization concerned with the complex issues of dyslexia and families. We believe that all individuals have the right to achieve their potential, that individual learning abilities can be strengthened, and that social, educational and cultural barriers to language acquisition and use must be removed. IDA actively promotes effective teaching approaches and related clinical educational intervention strategies for individuals with dyslexia. We support and encourage interdisciplinary study and research. We facilitate the exploration of the causes and early identification of dyslexia and are committed to the responsible and wide dissemination of research-based knowledge.

The Mission of TN IDA is to support the goals of IDA by providing professional development and training opportunities for teachers, assisting families in their search for service providers, actively working with policy makers to improve state and local education and services for teachers and individuals with dyslexia and related disorders, and increasing the awareness of families and professionals.

The International **DYSLEXIA** Association

Founded in Memory of Samuel T. Orton

TENNESSEE BRANCH

2233 Alexander Blvd.
Murfreesboro, Tennessee 37130

www.tn-interdys.org



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SAVE THE DATES!!!

Dr. Edward Hollowell

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and

Summer Learning Workshops, July 24 & 25, 2007

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