President’s Farewell Address

—Carol Blanc

AS I REFLECT on the past year as ADED President- I think of all the accomplishments the board has achieved. We have moved forward as an association by recognizing the need for a continuum with the presence of Executive Directors to assist the Board. Our Executive Directors bring countless expertise and vision to the Board. Our ADED Board has benefited from their new Board orientation training and assistance provided throughout the year on various projects.

I have strived to make our Board meetings more effective and concise. Committee work groups are to occur prior to attending the board meeting with drafts or project presentation to be voted on by the board.

Revision of the ADED resource notebook is underway with the final draft to be provided to ADED members at 2003 conference. Board members have recommended new information and contents to be enclosed in the resource notebook.

The ADED Chapter Guidelines have been revised & disseminated to ADED Chapter members.

Development of The Code of Ethics and Standards of Practice has been a priority of the Board to enable more opportunity & an ethical stance as an organization.

THE CODE OF ETHICS has been presented to the membership by the Professional Development Committee via the ADED website for comments. Now they are undergoing legal review. The Standards of Practice is still undergoing any needed review & revisions by the Professional Development Committee. Once these are all completed, then the Operations Member recommends to the Board some By Law changes to be proposed.

In addition, Professional Development is moving forth to establish criteria for course curriculum for educational models for the beginner, intermediate & advanced Driver Rehabilitation Specialist. These courses should provide educational opportunity to prepare/advance to higher level of skill for the Driver Rehabilitation Specialist in various modes via online, classroom & hands-on modules throughout the year. This is now in the development stage; however, I am supporting & facilitating this concentrated effort.

IN SPITE OF THE 9/11 ATTACK, our ADED Conference was a great success with high attendance in Kansas City. The Conference Committee has strived to provide a good educational learning experience & the Exhibitor Hall was exceptional. Our Corporate & Vendor Board members have excelled in securing the sponsorships needed for a successful conference.

(Continued on page 9)
STereo Optical, A Trusted Name In Vision Screening For Over 50 Years.

Optec® 2000/2500 Vision Tester Features

- Forehead Rest Pressure Bar
  Ensures proper patient position.
  (Includes disposable forehead tissues.)

- Lightweight, Portable
  Built in handle for easy transport.

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  For easy patient/instructor interaction.

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  Height adjustable to accommodate all patients.

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  For the most accurate color vision testing available.

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  Test vision on a horizontal plane.
  Stimuli at 85, 70,
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  Two separate testing ports for accurate distance near testing.

Rehabilitation Test Package

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- SLIDE # 2 Distance Letter Acuity Monocular/Binocular (20/200-20/20)
- SLIDE # 3 Pseudoisochromatic Color Perception
- SLIDE # 4 Near Letter Acuity Monocular/Binocular (20/100-20/20)
- SLIDE # 5 Lateral Phoria (1 Diopter Increments)
- SLIDE # 6 Vertical Phoria (1/2 Diopter Increments)
- SLIDE # 7 Stereo Depth Perception (400-20 Seconds of Arc)
- SLIDE # 8 Fusion
- SLIDE # 9 Distance Tumbling “E” Acuity Monocular/Binocular (20/200-20/20)
- SLIDE #10 Distance Number Acuity Monocular/Binocular (20/200-20/20)
- SLIDE #11 Road Sign Recognition & Depth Perception (620-323-145 Seconds of Arc)
- SLIDE #12 Color Recognition (Red, Yellow, Green, Blue)

Optional Contrast Sensitivity (Letter or Sinewave)
**CHAPTER NEWS**

**Northeast Chapter News**

**November 2002 – Two ADED Northeast Meetings held with NETSEA and KESSLER**

ADED Northeast enjoyed participating in the New England Traffic Safety Educators Association Conference held October 25-26th in the Grand Summit Hotel in Bartlett, New Hampshire. There were approximately 200 attendees from the ADED Northeast area. The 11 attending ADED members enjoyed wonderful speakers, discussions, and accommodations. ADED members presented two driver rehabilitation lectures with approved CEUs at this conference (Assessing Clients with Low tech Driving Needs – Tricia and Mark Whitehouse, CDRS, and Visual Impairments and Driving – Miriam Watson, OTR/L, CDRS). ADED Northeast and the NETSEA are finding participating in this conference together a rewarding and educational experience. ADED NE has been asked to sit on the NETSEA Board for meeting planning.

A chapter meeting was held in Bartlett on October 25th. With the attending 10 ADED members discussing the conference, and nominations for President and Secretary for ADED Northeast for 2003. Next years’ NETSEA conference will be held at the Radisson Hotel in Plymouth, MA on November 7-8, 2003.

(Continued on next page)

**Southeast Chapter News**

**Last Meeting of 2002**

**Includes Two Presentations**

Southeast Chapter had its last chapter meeting for the year in November. Presentations were given by Tom Jackman and Karen Monaco.

Tom Jackman, rehab engineer from SC Voc Rehab, talked about procedures used when a client needs a driving evaluation and adaptive equipment installed. Criteria for selecting driver evaluators and vendors were discussed along with how they perform equipment check-outs.

Karen, owner of MONACO’s TOW, gave a modified version of her “How to Make Your Pre-Driving Assessment Pretty Darn Accurate” seminar presented at ADED’s annual conference in August. The main focus was how driver rehabilitation specialists utilize clinical pre-driving assessments to assist in making predictions for functional driving performance.

Congratulations to Kim Hewitt and Chuck Hardy for passing the CDRS exam in August. Kim works for Emory Rehabilitation Center and Chuck works for Handicapped Driver Services. Way to go Kim and Chuck!!

Our next chapter meeting will be held March 21 in Athens, GA at Athens Regional Medical Center.

---

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E-mail: suregrip@nbnnet.nb.ca

Driver Educator’s and Dealers

If you are still holding back it’s time to get on board and start introducing the SURE GRIP system to your clients. They will thank you for it.

GET A GRIP ON DRIVING
Editors Note:
In an effort to provide a variety of subjects for our readers I have been busy recruiting articles; A big thank you to David Madonna for sharing with us the thoughts of our younger drivers and for reminding us of the driving mistakes we need to be alert for in all our drivers, especially our new ones.

Hello fellow Driver Rehab Specialists. As you all know, we adults are mostly clear thinking, rational beings. However, we did have to go through the wonderful world of puberty. Before I go any further, I should mention that aside from being a CDRS, I am also a Certified Driving Instructor. This means that I teach teens. In Michigan, our Drivers Ed program consists of two segments. In between the first and second segment, “the know-it-all” teens drive for at least 50 hours. For the second segment, part of my schools’ curriculum requires the teens to write down the 10 most common driving errors they have observed. Of course some teens do not really listen so they write down the most common errors they make. This leads to a wide variety of traffic situations they have noticed. The following is a list of some of the most common and not so common errors. Maybe this list can help you if you have young clients with Special Ed/LD or any other type of diagnosis requiring our special CDRS knowledge.

Common Errors Teens See:
1. No turn signal for lane change or turn
2. Running stop light/sign
3. No seatbelt
4. Stopping past the stop line
5. Accelerating through a yellow light
6. Cutting people off
7. Turning right on red when posted no turn on red
8. Speeding
9. Parking in more than one space
10. Crossing the yellow line while lane changing into left turn lane
11. Making a right turn from the shoulder
12. Not stopping for school bus or emergency vehicle
13. Eating/drinking/cell phone use while driving
14. Not slowing down in a construction zone
15. Tailgating
16. Going to slow
17. Loud music
18. Speeding up so as to not let someone merge onto the highway
19. Not using headlights when conditions are appropriate
20. Road rage

Some Errors the Teens Make:
1. Rolling through stop signs
2. Not wearing seat belts properly
3. Play the radio too loud
4. Speeding
5. Palming the wheel (driving with one hand)
6. Go into left turn lane too early
7. Take turns to fast
8. Talk to and look at the passengers
9. Talk on the phone
10. Accelerating through yellow light

David Madonna CDI, CDRS
Vision Therapy and Driving:

Melanie J. Kofskie, OTS
Elizabethtown College

Editor’s Note: The following article is the second in a series of articles written by Elizabethtown College Students as part of their Senior O.T. curriculum. The article was written last year so by now Melanie is a practicing Occupational Therapist. I want to thank her for her contribution to the News Brake and wish her well in her Occupational Therapy career.

WHAT IS VISION THERAPY? Who benefits from vision therapy? Who provides vision therapy and how can one find a vision therapist in his or her area? Many professionals, specifically certified driver rehabilitation specialists, know that vision is inherently related to driving, but they may not know how to help a client increase visual skills to improve driving ability. A patient in driver’s rehabilitation with visual behavioral deficits can be referred to an optometrist who provides vision therapy services. Together, the referring professional and the optometrist work to return the patient to the driver’s seat with optimum visual skills.

What is Vision Therapy?
Vision therapy is also known as orthoptics, vision training, visual training, visual rehabilitation, eye training, and eye exercises. It is a clinical treatment approach with an accompanying regimen of activities for correcting and improving eye movement disorders that involve the neuromuscular, neurophysiological, and neurosensory components of the eye. The disorders that can be addressed by vision therapy include strabismus, amblyopia, nystagmus, and certain visual perceptual information processing disorders. Also, it is important to know that vision therapy is a non-surgical technique. Treatment may include prescribed prism lenses, scanning exercises, fixation, saccadic movement exercises, and oculomotor exercises.

Doctor Joseph Bytoff, a rehabilitation optometrist at 7 North Baltimore Street, Dillsburg, PA, stated that while vision therapy involves correcting the functions of the eye, it also includes a developmental and behavioral aspect. The basic visual perceptual skills of oculomotor control, visual fields, and visual acuity must first be addressed based on the patient’s exhibited behaviors and compensatory visual strategies. The referring professional may not only find that the patient has a visual deficit, but also observe physical signs that he or she has difficulty with visual tasks, specifically driving tasks. The physical signs include: asymmetrical seating posture, inappropriate driving speeds, erratic lane shifts, fear of changing lanes and making turns, difficulty in coordinating movements in the car, inability to judge traffic when pulling out from an intersection, and pulling out into traffic without peripheral awareness. Dr. Bytoff treats children and adults, but claims, “Adults develop more behavioral strategies and are more sophisticated at hiding a visual deficit.”

Thank you for your support of NewsBrake during 2002 and Best Wishes for a New Year.

Lori
the adult is given more and more visual tasks, the strategies break down, and the underlying visual deficit becomes clear to the optometrist.

It is important that the referring professional, whether it be a driver rehabilitation specialist or an occupational therapist, has documented evidence of the patient's behaviors and visual disorders. The patient can have his or her vision evaluated by the driving instructor or therapist, but the optometrist certified in vision therapy ultimately decides if the patient is a true candidate for vision therapy services.

Who Benefits from Vision Therapy?

Patients of all ages who have a diagnosed visual dysfunction, such as oculomotor dysfunction, non-strabismus binocular coordination problems, accommodative disorders, strabismus, amblyopia, and nystagmus can benefit from vision therapy. The visual dysfunction is often secondary to cerebrovascular accident (C.V.A.), traumatic brain injury (T.B.I.), cerebral palsy (C.P.), and developmental delays. Dr. Byhoff explained that with compliance to therapy, vision therapy could have a 100% success rate. The referring professional works under the supervision of the optometrist and ensures the patient is following his or her prescribed activities. Patients who are determined to get back in the driver’s seat will greatly benefit from compliance with the therapy, especially if the physical signs listed are keeping him or her from attaining the goal of driving safely.

Who Provides Vision Therapy and How can a Therapist be Located?

Vision therapy is provided by optometrists certified in vision therapy services, through coursework in school and part of the certification process of optometrists. Credentials of optometrists with vision therapy training may include Diplomat in binocular vision and perception or Fellow of the College of Optometrists in Vision Development (FCOVD). Optometrists who provide vision therapy services can be located in several different ways. The first available method is telephoning local optometrists and asking if they provide vision therapy services. Secondly, a large listing of optometrists in the local area can be attained from the following websites and addresses:

- **www.babousa.org/** - The Baltimore Academy for Behavioral Optometry website, which provides a listing of American and International optometrists certified in behavioral vision therapy
- **www.aaopt.org/** - The American Academy of Optometry website; select “member directory” in main menu and type in the name of a local optometrist in order to find out his or her credentials
- **www.goanet.org/clicare/pediatrics-what.asp** - The American Optometric Association (A.O.A.) website, which provides A.O.A. affiliate listings for every state
- **www.psoeyes.org** - Pennsylvania Optometric Association, Inc. website; select “guest menu”, then choose “Doctor finder”, which will present a screen to locate optometrists in the area (Other States may have similar organizations)
- **www.optometrists.org/** - The Optometrists Network; choose “Find a Doctor” and enter information about the patient and the geographical location

It is important to note that the prescribed vision therapy and suggestions of the optometrist are included in the driving therapy regimen. Through referral and provision of services, the optometrist becomes a vital member of the treatment team with the goal of ameliorating the visual deficits that hinder the patient from the goal of driving safely and independently.
WE ARE WORKING collaboratively with other associations & building a strong working alliance such as with NMEDA and AOTA. We also send representation to other associations conferences i.e., DSAA. I have been invited to work with AOTA/NHTSA on a Consensus Conference to brainstorm & blueprint recommendations for the “Elderly and Mobility.”

Our financial status has remained viable with the concerted efforts of the ADED Board & cutting the proposed budget by 10% this past year. We are looking forward to provide benefits to the ADED membership for continuing education & growth within the field of Driver Rehabilitation. Our Board has been working to make this possible with the financial commitment. Our Treasurer has provided countless hours to provide information valuable to our financial status.

Our newsletters have been informative & the connection between us all from conference to conference. I commend Lori Benner for a well done job as newsletter editor.

THE CERTIFICATION COMMITTEE has looked at other options for testing companies & found AMP to be the best option for ADED. The Certification Board success- fully negotiated a new contract with AMP. The 2002 ADED Board has worked very hard to meet goals & strive for the future of Driver Rehabilitation. I wish to give a per- sonal thanks to Susan Lillie, Past President, Michael McGinn, President-Elect, Renee Tyree Gross, Secretary, Betty MacDonald, Treasurer, Linda McQuistion, Professional Development, Holly Domingue, Operations, Sally Sullivan, Membership, Donna Stressel, Public Relations, Ed Reutebuch, Corporate, Michael Dresdner, Vendor, Earl Mathews, Certification, Lori Benner, Newsletter Editor, Michael Shipp, Executive Di-rector, and Kathie Regan, Executive Director. Also a special thanks to Stacey Stevens & the conference program committee & conference exhibit committee – Michele Coffey and Katy Greene. Gratitude to Nominations chairperson – Kim Briggs.

It was a challenge & a pleasure to serve as ADED President 2002, I will look back with fond memories of how committed the volunteers of this great organization are! I look for- ward to passing the gavel on & working under the leadership of Michael McGinn as 2003 President, our new 2003 ADED Board & our team of Executive Directors Kathie Regan and Michael Shipp.

Remember - ADED is striving for excellence.

**Congratulations Paul St. Pierre**

**PAUL ST. PIERRE**, director of driver education at Crotched Mountain, was selected as New Hampshire’s 2002 Outstanding Worker by the national organization Experience Works.

St. Pierre, who lives in Jaffrey, New Hampshire accepted the award in Washington, D.C., on Sept. 18 along with 53 other older workers from each state, the District of Columbia, and Puerto Rico.

St. Pierre has worked for Crotched Mountain for 35 years. He is one of fewer than 300 certified driver rehabilitation specialists (CDRS) in North America who evaluate and make recommendations for adaptive devices, vehicle modifications, and training recommendations for people with disabilities who aspire to independent driving. To date, St. Pierre has taught more than 4,100 people how to drive.

“He puts his heart and soul into his work,” commented Bruce Macey, vice president of human resources at Crotched Mountain, who nominated St. Pierre for the award. “He is a creative genius in devising mechanical systems to assist people in learning to drive. His enthusi-asm never wanes as a teacher and champion for his students,” said Macey.

St. Pierre, in fact, has won numerous awards for his contributions, including recognition by the Jaffrey Chamber of Commerce, the Association of Driver Rehabilitation Specialists; and Vermont Governor Howard Dean presented St. Pierre with a special commendation for Pierre’s contributions to that state.

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To earn the “Prime Time Award,” individuals must be 65 years of age or older and work at least 20 hours per week in paid employment. Experience works is the nation’s largest provider of mature worker training and employment.

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The headquarters and main campus for Crotched Mountain are in Greenfield, N.H. Visit www.crotchedmountain.org.

For more information, contact John Greene, director of corporate communications, at 603-547-3311, ext. 530.

**Stressel, Public Relations, Ed Reutebuch, Corporate, Michael Dresdner, Vendor, Earl Mathews, Certification, Lori Benner, Newsletter Editor, Michael Shipp, Executive Director, and Kathie Regan, Executive Director. Also a special thanks to Stacey Stevens & the conference program committee & conference exhibit committee – Michele Coffey and Katy Greene. Gratitude to Nominations chairperson – Kim Briggs.**

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First, I would like to congratulate the 17 new Certified Driver Rehabilitation Specialists listed in the News Brake. Your dedication to your profession is appreciated by ADED and your clients. At the present time over half of our organization holds active CDRS certificates. Fourteen state vocational rehabilitation programs now require the involvement of a CDRS in evaluation and/or training of their clients.

Several things have occurred in the certification realm this year and last that some of you may or may not be aware of. Due to legal issues the Certification Board that was a stand alone entity was moved under the Professional Development position on the ADED board and is now a committee. The fee structure for the test and renewals was raised due to Certification budget issues. And last but not least ADED renewed our testing contract with Applied Measurement Professionals (AMP) for 5 more years.

AMP has been on board with ADED since the CDRS test inception and is a leader in standardized testing and administration.

I am rotating off the committee and I want to thank my colleagues on the committee for the hard work they have performed all year. I also want to wish Michelle Luther-Krug who is taking over my position as committee chairman good luck in the coming year.

Here are the New Certified Driver Rehabilitation Specialists:

- Pamela K. Bartle, IL
- Shirley Chapman, TX
- Denise A. Edwards, BC, Canada
- Anne M. Gant, MN
- Scot Godager, WI
- Matthew E. Green, ID
- Charles Hardy, GA
- Kimberly B. Hewitt, GA
- Doreen J. Knapke, OH
- Nathalie Maertens, Quebec, Canada
- Dennis Magrann, PA
- Lisa C. McBride, TN
- Jennifer Nordine, AZ
- Augusta A. St. John, TX
- Neville Stringer, PA
- Pauline H. Wong, Hong Kong
- Nancy J. Wylie, IN

Earl Mathews
ADED Awards – An

Looking back through all the names that were recognized by ADED through the Awards Program is like taking a walk through ADED's history. The awards program evolved over the years, and in 1995, the program was formalized. The introduction of the perpetual plaque system in 1995 was an important step. Each recipient is given a perpetual plaque to display for one year. Recipients also receive an engraved award, which is theirs to keep. The plaque has engraved plates listing the name, affiliation, and year of each award winner in that category. One award recipient, who was honored by being selected for a 2001 award, stated, “The award meant so much more when I saw the names of the other award winners on the plaque”. These names include founding members, industry giants, and people who are respected for their work in advancing the field of driver rehabilitation. Ironically, many of these recipients don’t perceive themselves as anything special, but rather just doing their job or what they love!

LIFETIME HONORARY MEMBER
Fred Merrill
William Ramsey
Leroy Rotschafer
1995
Margaret Young
2000
Carmella Strano
2001

DISTINGUISHED SERVICE AWARD
Ralph Braun
The Braun Corp.
1988
Charles Scott
Scott Driving System
1993

Achievement Award
William Ramsey
1994
Carmella Strano
1995
Henry H. Syrkin
Doron Precision Systems, Inc
1996
Dick McColl
Connecticut DMV
1997

Distinguished Service Award
Carmella Strano
2001

Scholar Award
Susan Pierce
Adaptive Mobility Services
1994
Deena Garrison Jones
Woodrow Wilson Rehab Center
1997

Lifetime Honorary Member
Kathie Regan
KY Vocational Rehab
1998
Paul St. Pierre
Crotchet Mountain Rehab Center
1999
Clinton Matney
KY Vocational Rehab
2000
Norm Simoes
CA Voc. Rehabilitation
2001

An evolving program, ADED has trimmed its award categories to six for 2003 – Achievement, Distinguished Service, Scholar, Research & Applied Engineering, Commercial, and Honorary Lifetime Membership. Two awards were retired, as they no longer fit within the mission of ADED. The remaining six enable both the ADED member and non-member to receive recognition. It should also make it easier for members to identify the appropriate category for a nominee.

The next issue of News Brake will include the criteria and a nomination form for the 2003 awards. As you read through the award roster and experience a bit of ADED history, think of those in your circle of colleagues who deserve such recognition. Many ADED members and non-members (those well known to the industry as well as those choosing to keep a lower profile) make substantial contributions to the field of driver rehabilitation. Recognizing them through the awards program will honor their achievements, so please be sure to look for the nomination form next issue.
Historical View of the Industry

Carol Blackburn
Adaptive Mobility Services
1999

Michael Shipp
Louisiana Tech University
2000

Michael McCowan
Peter Ruprecht
Drive-Master Co. Inc.
1998

Bruce Ahnafield
Ahnafield Corporation
1999

Daniel Wallace
Innovative Mobility
1999

Stan Nystrom
Handicapped Vehicle Specialists
2001

COMMERCIAL AWARD
Bruce Constantin
EMC/EZ Lock, Inc.
1997

Jerry Sirjord
Crow River Industries
1998

EXEMPLARY AWARD
Robert Brophy
1994

THE VIRGINIA ANDERSON AWARD
Virginia Anderson
1985

We regret that we were unable to provide pictures of all of our award winners due to snapshot availability. If you have photos of significance to ADED, please forward them to Lori Benner for possible inclusion in future issues of NewsBrake.
Mark Your Calendars

The calendar of upcoming events is provided as a service to ADED members. News Brake does not confirm the accuracy of the information provided. Please verify dates and locations with the organizations listed.

February 5-8, 2003 - Daytona Beach, Fla. Nmeda Annual Conference. Phone 800-833-0427


August 1-4, 2003 - Crystal City, Va. ADED. Phone 800-290-2344

To have your event information included in Dates to Remember please provide the information to Editor News Brake . . . Lori Benner. (E-mail: lbenner@psu.edu, phone: 717-531-7444 or mail to: Lori Benner, CDRS, The Milton S. Hershey Medical Center, P.O. Box 850, Mailcode H-125, Hershey, Pa. 17033.

NMEDA’s Annual Conference

will be held at
Daytona Beach, Fl
February 5-8, 2003

Join us for industry information, fellowship and fun in the sun

Call 1-800-833-0427 for a registration packet.

INSTANT HAND CONTROL INSTALLATION

'96-'03 Dodge Caravan & Plymouth Voyager

- NO tools required
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- DOESN'T require knee bolster removal
- DOESN'T mar vehicle
- TWO hand controls available:
  - CT-100 Rotary Cable
  - CP-200 Right Angle Cable

RIGHT ANGLE CONTROL (CP-200)
Clamp hasp mounting bracket over steel-backed knee bolster. Minimum intrusion for driver. Can easily be removed and reinstalled between use.

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Access Unlimited Announces New Low Profile Glide 'n Go for SUVs, Mini-Vans, Trucks

Binghamton, NY—Access Unlimited, Inc. (AU) has begun production of the new Low-Profile Glide 'n Go Transfer Seat for SUVs, Mini-Vans and Short-Cab Trucks.

Enthusiastic DRS and consumer response to the original Bi-Fold Glide 'n Go for Extended Cab Pickups led Access Unlimited, Inc. (AU) last year to introduce the Single-Fold Glide 'n Go for SUVs, Mini-Vans and Short-Cab Pickups.

The new Low-Profile Glide 'n Go stands only 18” tall—approximately half the height of the earlier Single-Fold Glide 'n Go, depending on vehicle make and model—and stores compactly behind the seat of an SUV, minivan or short-cab pickups. The Low-Profile Glide 'n Go does not affect FMVSS 208 (Occupant Crash Protection) in most models.

The smaller footprint of the Low-Profile Glide 'n Go opens an entirely new range of options for the driver with a disability. One example includes the use of the Glide 'n Go with a left-side power door mini-van to allow wheelchair storage through the factory power cargo door using a variety of readily available lift products such as Bruno’s VSL 900 Scooter/Wheelchair Lifter, the AWL 160 Wheelchair Lifter or Burr Engineering’s Van Lift to store the mobility device in the center cargo area.

Binghamton, NY—In response to DRS and consumer demand for controls that accommodate drivers with different levels and types of hand and foot dexterity, Access Unlimited, Inc. has begun production of 4 new configuration options for the Mini-Touch Steering Wheel Secondary Control System. The new configuration options include the Knob-Mounted, Palm Grip, Vertical Grip and Foot Controlled adapters. In addition to these options, the popular Standard Configuration Mini-Touch can now be tucked in front of the steering wheel (on the dashboard side, away from the driver) when the knob cannot be placed at the...
proper steering wheel position due to structural interference.

Each Mini-Touch configuration option can now be ordered in 6 or 12 function models that allow the original controls to operate normally. Popular functions include turn signals, horn, wiper, wash, dimmer for the 6-Function as well as HVAC, rear defrost/wipe/wash, radio, cruise on/set/accel/resume, windows, and many more for the 12-Function version. The Mini-Touch's easy transferability and ergonomic design have made it a favorite with DRS's and drivers alike. For more information on the Mini-Touch, visit www.accessunlimited.com.

Free demonstrator units are available to qualified driver rehabilitation programs. For more information contact TC at Access Unlimited, 1-800-849-2143.

Creative Controls, Inc. is very proud to announce that we have put the finishing touches on our re-design of our "Air-Touch" Extreme Gas & Brake control sys-

Access Unlimited, Inc. Expands Production, Welcomes U.S. Sales Manager

Binghamton, NY—In response to overwhelming demand for its new product offerings, Access Unlimited, Inc. (AU) has recently doubled its manufacturing space and staff, adding 3 new production lines to its manufacturing facility in Binghamton, NY. Existing facilities have also been renovated and modernized to enhance productivity.

As part of this expansion, Access Unlimited welcomes Thomas Cole as National Sales Manager. Tom brings extensive sales and marketing experience from his years as district sales manager for a major national optical product manufacturer and distributor.

Thomas F. Egan, President of Access Unlimited, said, "Tom Cole is a great addition to our team. We're working to educate consumers and evaluators about our innovative new products, and Tom's extensive background in sales and technical training make him the perfect leader for that educational campaign. His charisma and dedication are terrific assets during this time of expansion at AU."

Access Unlimited, Inc. designs and manufactures innovative mobility equipment that gives people with disabilities the power to drive or ride in the vehicle of their choice.

Your Clients Can "Go Where they Want to Go" with the new 2002 IMS

For a free video and brochure, call 1-800-IMS-VANS or visit our website at www.imsvans.com

Dale W. Anderson Photo
Manufacturer's Corner
(Continued from previous page)

When we decided to go back to the drawing board and re-design the system, we had many meetings and discussions with people in the industry telling us what they wanted or needed from a product such as this.

On the end user or “client” side, we took a hard look at what the person who had to live with this product and depend on it on a day-to-day basis needed. “We need to do it right from the beginning” said Tom Stowers, owner of Creative Controls, Inc. So the handle was re-designed to give a better “feel” for the client.

The other consideration was the variable skill level and abilities of the client. We decided to address this issue with re-designing our “on board computer processor”. The system now employs two processors to not only ensure a robust system but also enabled us to offer much more in terms of a very “agile” system. We are now controlling the secondary functions through our on board computer. No more clumsy boxes and pendant’s cluttering up the driver space. Just a very elegant LCD display and one elbow button.

On the Driver Trainer side we looked at the challenges of the Driver Trainers. There needed to be a system with flexibility to fit the ever changing needs of their “clients”. There are so many different abilities and skill levels that the Driver Trainers have to encounter on a day-to-day basis. So we took a hard look at what they needed from a system such as Air-Touch. One of the considerations was the ability to “alter” the response of the gas and brake control system easily and quickly. It also needed to be “user friendly”. What we came up with is a computer control processor, which has a unique communication capability. With our new system we can now offer a variety of Programs to adjust to each client’s needs.

This can be accomplished in different ways. We now have the ability to download to the Evaluation Vehicle from either a laptop or desktop computer, or the Internet. Yes, the system now has an IP address that can be utilized by the Driver Trainers to dramatically change the level of service they offer. Imagine having a client session at 9am with a particular set of capabilities and another client at 2pm with a totally different set of needs. You now have the ability to adapt to the clients needs quickly and efficiently. Or on the other hand, imagine sitting in your office and having the capability to change your Evaluation Vehicle’s response from your desk! Now you can with the new “AIR-Touch Extreme”.

Tom Johnson
General Manager
Creative Controls, Inc.

Please contact Creative Controls, Inc. at 248-577-9800 for more information.

Handicapped Driver Systems

Ever have your clients tear the wall at the seat belt retractor with their foot rests as they pull into and out of the driver’s area of a full sized van? We hate that and we hate the burden that it places on the castors as they rub on the vertical carpeted wall of the lowered floor when entering and exiting. Years ago we designed and fabricated stainless steel panels that fully protect the vertical walls and allow the castors to easily “slide” down the stainless plate when necessary, reducing wear and aiding entry for the large powered wheelchair users. We recently designed and fabricated a custom cover for the area where the “recessed” seat belt reel is installed. This cover is nearly indestructible and is made out of 18 gauge stainless. It is stamped and fits the contour of the wall and reel. Email us for a digital photo if necessary at hdsvans@mindspring.com.

Michael Dresdner

If you're looking for a vehicle that's both accessible and versatile, look no further. The 2003 Braun Entervan is loaded with features designed to help you participate fully in any lifestyle you choose. The touch of a button on the keychain remote activates the automatic door and ramp, while the rear suspension lowers to provide easy access to the interior. So no matter what you're looking for in your next accessible vehicle, the Entervan will be completely at home. Yours.
Electronic Mobility Controls hosted a product workshop exclusively for Driver Rehabilitation Specialists in October. Approximately 25 Driver Rehabilitation Specialists were treated to a two-day workshop, which offered in depth coverage and education on EMC products including the AEVITT primary driving control system, Gold Series console and their line of secondary controls. The goal of the workshop was to provide tools to assist the DRS to make informed decisions about their clients' compatibility with the equipment.

Attendees had ample opportunity to network with each other as well as the staff at EMC. EMC provided an opportunity for attendees to sample the local food fare through the generous lunches and banquet they provided. A very valuable feature of the workshop was an opportunity to provide feedback to the EMC team regarding the viewpoint of the Driver Rehabilitation Specialist regarding the needs of clients and evaluators.

According to EMC the Product Workshop has been approved for continuing education units through ADED and will be repeated. The workshop is free. For more information contact EMC at 225-927-5558.
ADED - APPLICATION FOR MEMBERSHIP

Benefits of Membership:
• Certification Program CDRS - Certified Driver Rehabilitation Specialists
• Quarterly Newsletter
• Reduced Annual Conference and Workshop Fees
• Professional Network:
  - Affiliations with others who have a common goal
  - Access to current information or research and development in the field
  - Assistance with program development and enhancement
  - Referral sources
• Membership Resource Guide
• Alliances with other professional organizations
  - Society of Automotive Engineers
  - National Mobility Equipment Dealers Association
  - American Occupational Therapy Association
  - American Driver and Traffic Safety Association
  - National Rehabilitation Association
  - RESNA - The Rehabilitation Engineering and Assistive Technology Society of North America
  - American Kinesitherapy Association
  - Driving School Association of the Americas
• Web Page Links

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Organization ____________________________

Address ____________________________

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Business Phone ____________________________

Fax No. ____________________________

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ADED Membership runs from January 1 through December 31.

Type of Membership (Please Check One):

□ Individual: An Individual directly involved in service for driver evaluation or education for the disabled. Voting privileges. New Member $100 Renewal $75

□ Student: Full-time student who is not eligible for individual membership. $25

□ Vendor: Business involved in service, installation, and sales of equipment used in driving, and driver education for the disabled. $100

□ Corporate: An organization or business that manufactures products used in driving and driver education for the disabled. $200

Checks must be in US. Funds made payable to ADED. Mail this application and dues to:

ADED
711 S. Vienna
Ruston, LA 71270
318-257-5055 • 800-290-2344

□ VISA □ MasterCard

# ____________________________ Exp. Date ____________________________

Professional Background:

□ Driver Education

□ Vocational Rehabilitation

□ Rehab Engineering

□ Equipment Dealer

□ Equipment Manufacturer

□ Kinesitherapist

□ Other (Specify ____________________________ )

Facility:

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Comments: ____________________________

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STOP!! What’s New at Your Place?

In order to keep updated on what is going on with ADED members across the country, I need your help. Take a minute and fill out this form, fold it and mail it.

☐ Been Promoted?
☐ Started a new program or expanded an existing program?
☐ Presented at a workshop or conference?
☐ Doing a research project?
☐ Ideas for an article or “Shifting Gear” question?
☐ Other: ________________________________

Details: ___________________________________
_________________________________________
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Look under “Key Notes” in the next newsletter for your item.

Name: ____________________________
Institution: ____________________________
Phone: ____________________________

NEWSLETTER DEADLINE:
The next deadline is February 25. Please send any articles, pictures or news information to:

Lori Benner
Hershey Medical Center, MCH 125
P.O. Box 850
Hershey, PA 17033
email: lbenner@psu.edu
For a list of EMC Certified Dealers in your area, visit us on the web or contact us at (225) 927-5558.

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