



THE VOLUNTEER VOICE

Tennessee Branch
The International Dyslexia Association

WINTER 2004

RISE Conference Promises to be Day of Fast-paced Learning

The second annual TN IDA RISE Conference will be held at the beautiful Curry Ingram Academy in Brentwood, TN on Saturday, April 17, 2004. The conference has been planned as an opportunity for attendees to gain further insight into the lives of people with dyslexia and to learn about and review researched-based methods designed to understand and improve such lives. The conference begins with registration at 7:30 a.m. and concludes with the last of the four break-out sessions, at 4:00 p.m.

The quality of the program speaks volumes for the organization itself, as well as for the highly-qualified Board who has put the program together. Familiar names listed throughout the program pages let you know you should come prepared for a day of fast-paced learning. Presenters include: Dr. Debbie Christiansen, a pediatrician representing Knoxville Pediatric Associates; Dr. Susan Smartt, a private practitioner, consultant and reading specialist in the Nashville area and co-owner of Smart Johnson and Associates Clinical Services; and Dr. Paul Thompson, executive director of Shedd Academy and Chair of the Teacher Education Program at Mid-Continent College. Two presenters from the LindaMood Bell Center in Atlanta, Georgia are listed, as well as a panel discussion by a group of bona fide experts and parents of children with dyslexia. What a cast of presenters!

The Keynote Address, to be given by Dr. Sylvia O. Richardson, begins at 8:30 am. Dr. Richardson is an internationally known expert in professional areas that play significant roles in the lives of people with dyslexia...the medical field, the speech and language arena, and education. Dr. Richardson will follow her early morning address with a breakout session at 11:15 focused on the relationship between speaking, handwriting and written language.

The mail-in registration deadline for the conference is Tuesday, April 13, 2004. The registration fee is \$70 for TN IDA members and \$85 for non-members. All attendees will receive a set of handouts from the conference and a TN IDA Resource Directory.



Reading
Instruction
Successfully
Enhanced

**The Tennessee Branch
of the International Dyslexia Association**
presents its 2004 Annual Conference

Featuring

Sylvia O. Richardson, M.D.

Presenter of the Keynote Address



“Reading Instruction: Our Successes and Challenges”

Sylvia O. Richardson, M.D., is Emeritus Professor of Pediatrics and Distinguished Professor of Communication Sciences and Disorders at the University of South Florida. She received her B.A. from Stanford University, the M.A. from Columbia Teacher’s College, and the M.D. from McGill University. She is a pediatrician, a certified Speech/Language Pathologist, and a certified Montessori teacher. Beyond these titles, she has served as the former president of both the American Speech-Language and Hearing Association (ASHA) and the International Dyslexia Association. Additionally, she has been chair of the National Joint Committee on Learning Disabilities and president of both the Multidisciplinary Academy of Clinical Education and the Florida Branch of the IDA.



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Message from the President

by Martie Wood, President
TN Branch of the IDA

MOMENTUM

The goal of the International Dyslexia Association is to improve the ability of all people to learn to read, write, and spell, including those with language-based learning disabilities. One means of doing this is by generating and supporting scientific research—both behavioral and biological. Another is by disseminating valid information. A third is by enabling the training of educators to use and teach the best practices available, those with documented results. Being aware of and actively advocating in policy-making decisions is a fourth.

To these ends, we have set up an amazing conference. I am both excited and proud that this branch has the ability to offer this much access to practical information for such a diverse audience. I cannot wait for you to experience Keynote Speaker Sylvia Richardson's wisdom and wit. I wish you all could attend more sessions than the four time slots will allow. The opportunity to network at the lunch chats will seem too short; the drive home too long. I hope you will carpool, so the ideas can continue to flow.

Although the conference requires a huge amount of our energy, it is by no means all that we do. The TN IDA has all of the challenges of a non-profit, volunteer organization. We are all too busy; we change officers and must reorganize; we have limited funds; we can never accomplish enough; we have real jobs, families, and lives that require our time and energy. Yet, the commitment and talent of our multi-faceted board and liaison team are inspiring.

We are building a networking infrastructure to exchange knowledge and provide support for those who will benefit from it. Who needs this? Who wants this? Teachers do. Pediatricians do. Parents and families do. Community leaders do. Struggling readers of all ages do. Administrators do. Policy-makers do. Employers and their employees do. Speech-Language therapists do. School psychologists do. Educational researchers do. We are doing this by establishing a liaison team through which we can communicate needs and advice.

A parent network is developing with a state coordinator and a parent liaison from each region in an attempt to reach out beyond our membership to 1) make resources more available to those who need them and 2) to share questions and seek solutions from personal experience.

Partnerships are being built through which we can share our resource base and talents. We have initiated a relationship with the state directors of Adult Basic Education to increase our knowledge of how they function and to share referral techniques, effective methodology, and assessment knowledge as a means to assist in addressing the heartbreaking situation of the adult with a

limiting learning disability. Also, we are strengthening communication with directors of appropriate departments within the State Department and the State Board of Education in the effort to support and strengthen teacher training college programs and public school initiatives involving valid research-based practices.

The Tennessee Branch of the International Dyslexia Association is a high quality, dynamic, hard-working, solution-oriented service organization. Our members have reason to be involved and proud.

TN IDA WEBSITE UPDATED

www.tn-interdys.org

The TN IDA website has been updated and is proving to be more user-friendly and informative. The site hosts an array of information including a listing of service providers, recommended reading, contacts for parents and archival newsletters. Be sure to bookmark the site, as you will want to visit it frequently for the latest information regarding dyslexia.

DID YOU KNOW?

Evidence-based interventions can spark major improvements in education. For example, studies suggest that one-on-one tutoring by qualified tutors for at-risk readers in grades 1-3 results in the average tutored student reading more proficiently than approximately 75 percent of the untutored students in the control group.

Source: U.S. Department of Education, *Identifying and Implementing Educational Practices Supported by Rigorous Evidence: A User-Friendly Guide*, 2003.

Currey Ingram Academy

FACES of Learning

The Donnelley Foundation Discussions on Learning Series

Proudly Presents for the Community

Richard D. Lavoie, M.A., M.Ed.

Educator, Consultant, International Speaker,
and Author of PBS video programs

Tuesday, March 9, 2004

6:30 p.m. – 8:30 p.m.

Currey Ingram Academy, Brentwood, Tennessee

Call for Reservations: (615) 507-3172

Contact Cherrie Farnette or Kathy Glover

Currey Ingram Academy

6544 Murray Lane, Brentwood, TN 37027

615/507-3172_cherrie.farnette@curreygram.org



New Board Members Begin Duties



Newly elected board members are: (front row) Mary Brown, SE TN Vice-President; Lynne Walker, Central Region Vice-President; Caresa Young, Board Secretary; Nina O’Neill, Ringgold, GA; and Karen Jones, assistant secretary. Second row: Anna Collie, Johnson City; Dixie Henley, Chattanooga; Carolyn Weimer, Hopkinsville, KY; Ruth LaTour, Hopkinsville, KY; and Dr. Tara Joyce, Murfreesboro.

Board Representation for Parent-Liaison



Board members serving on the Parent Liaison committee include from left to right: Anna Collie, Tri-Cities; Dixie Henley, Southeast Tennessee; Mary Brown, Chattanooga; Nina O’Neill, Ringgold, GA; and Carolyn Weimer, KY region.

TN IDA REACHES OUT TO THE COMMUNITY

Do you need a quality speaker for an upcoming event? Do you need information about Dyslexia? Do you wonder where you can take your child to be tested for dyslexia? Do you need someone to conduct a faculty in-service on dyslexia? Are you an adult with dyslexia who wants to learn to read? Would you like to arrange a speaker for medical “Grand Rounds” or for a PTA meeting? Contact your area Vice-president. He or she will be happy to assist you.

<u>REGION</u>	<u>CONTACT</u>	<u>TELEPHONE</u>	<u>EMAIL ADDRESS</u>
Delta Region	Rene Friemoth Lee	(901) 754-1800	rflee@bodineschool.org
Northwest TN and KY	Paul Thompson	(270) 247-8007	Thompsonp55@hotmail.com
Smoky Mountain Region	Elizabeth Cox	(865) 546-9651	eac4414@aol.com
South Central Region	Lynne Walker	(615) 218-7304	clwalker@mtsu.edu
Southeast Region	Mary Brown	(423) 877-9711	mbrown@sceniclandschool.org
Tri-Cities Region	Vicki McGowan	(423) 929-8317	ydjp@chartentn.net

CONNECTING WITH PARENTS

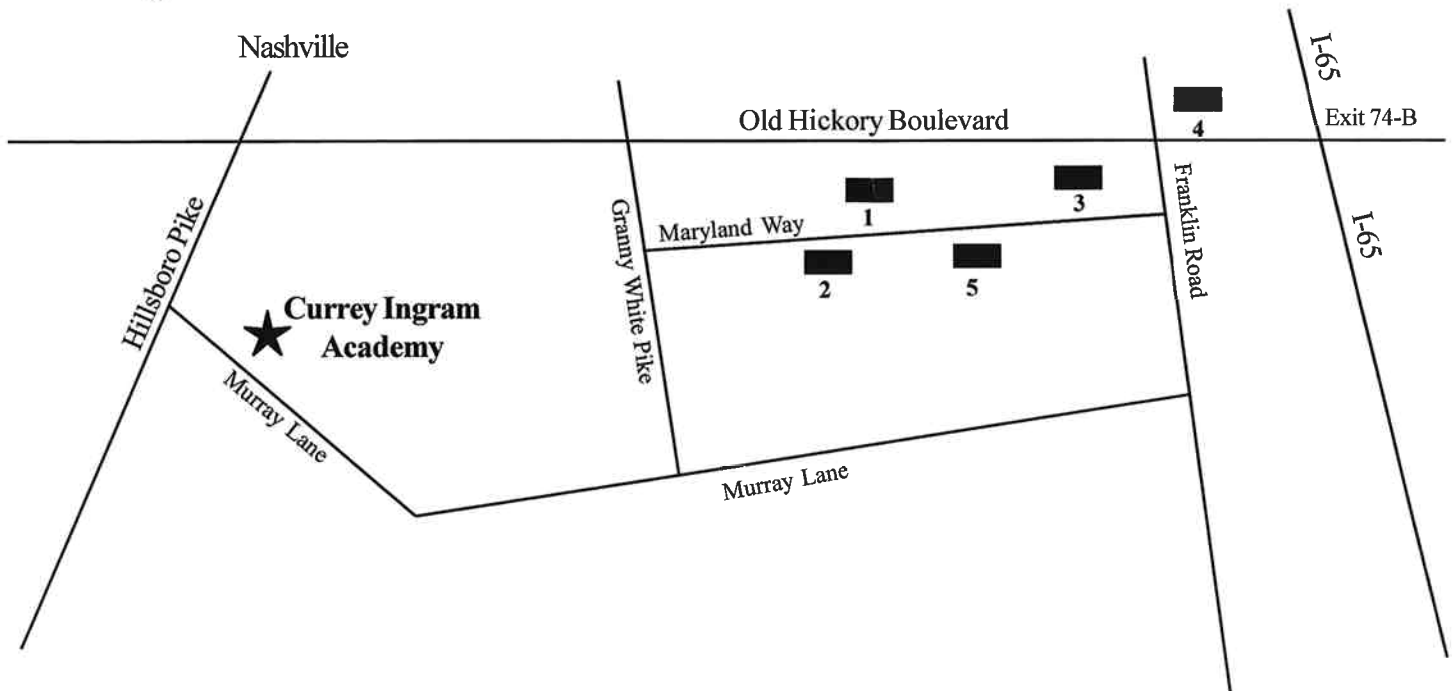
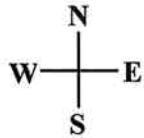
Assisting parents with encouragement, information and support is one major goal of the TN IDA. A parent to parent networking system is being developed statewide to provide access to speakers who can present the latest research and strategies for teaching children with dyslexia as well as veterans of maneuvering through the system who can provide experience-based motivation and support.

The State Parent Liaison Coordinator is Jamie Baker. She can be reached by email at bake3565@bellsouth.net or by phone at (901) 523-8197. Regional representatives are:

Anna Collie	Tri-Cities	(423) 854-8912	acoll02@earthlink.net
Michele Gentry	Smoky Mountain Region	(865) 539-0824	mrrgentry@comcast.net
Dixie Henley	Southeast TN	(423) 877-8792	DixCTalk2@aol.com
Ruth Thornber	Central TN	(615) 309-9450	terrythornber@comcast.net
Patricia Brown	Delta Region		

TN IDA ANNUAL CONFERENCE DIRECTIONS AND ACCOMMODATIONS

Brentwood, Tennessee



DIRECTIONS TO CURREY INGRAM ACADEMY

6544 Murray Lane

FROM I-65:

Exit Old Hickory Blvd (Exit 74B) Travel west for 4-5 mi.
Turn left (south) on Hillsboro Pike (Hwy 431).
Go 1.3 mi. and turn left at new light onto Murray Ln.
Go .8 mi. to Currey Ingram Academy (on your left).

FROM I-40 (from E or W TN)

At Nashville, take I-440 to I-65 South.
Take I-65 south to Old Hickory Blvd. Exit (74B).
Follow the directions listed above for FROM I-65.

FROM SE TN on I-24

At Nashville, take I-440 to I-65 South.
Take I-65 south to Old Hickory Blvd, Exit (74B).
Follow the directions listed above for FROM I-65.

FROM N TN on I-24

Above Nashville, take I-65 through Nashville.
Follow the directions listed above for FROM I-65.

1	BAYMONT INN & SUITES 111 Penn Warren Dr. \$60.00 Identify with TN IDA	615-376-4666
2	CANDLEWOOD SUITES 5129 Virginia Way \$75.00 No Breakfast Identify with TN IDA	615-309-0600
3	COURTYARD BY MARRIOTT 103 E. Park Drive \$79.00 Restaurant: Breakfast & Lunch	615-371-9200
4	HAMPTON INN & SUITES 5630 Franklin Pike Circle (next to Wendy's & Mrs. Winner's) \$79.00 Continental Breakfast	615-373-2212
5	RESIDENCE INN 206 Ward Circle \$75.00 Full Breakfast Buffet	1-800-331-3131

