



Promoting literacy through research, education, and advocacy

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE:

Happy Holidays!

This fall there have been many exciting things going on in IDA and ORBIDA. In October, to celebrate National Dyslexia Awareness Month, we began our lecture series. Cheryl Anthony, Susie Billstein and Shelbe Park have put together a fantastic line up of lectures. At the October lecture Susan Barton talked about dyslexia and effective teaching methods. In November, Diane Wiscarsin talked about the law and what to look for in IEP's. The next lecture will be in January. Please check our website for more details about future lectures: www.orbida.org/events.asp



The middle of October brought an exciting workshop from the Boys & Girls' Clubs people called, "The State of our Children and Dyslexia". It was wonderful to see the Boys & Girls Clubs helping its population of dyslexics by providing Orton-Gillingham based programs for the children. They had many speakers well known to IDA like Dr. Ed Kame'enui, Jack Horner (Jurassic Park advisor), Henry Winkler, Rick Lavoie, and a representative from the Charles Schwab Foundation. They also included a copy of Sally Shaywitz' book "Overcoming Dyslexia" for each workshop participant. I am hopeful that we can collaborate further and build on this positive relationship with the Boys & Girls Clubs to help both of our organizations to help children.

The end of October brought the 58th Annual International Dyslexia Association Conference in Dallas, Texas -- "Literacy and Language in the Lone Star State". As usual it was a first rate conference. Our two Cherida Collins Smith Scholarship winners, Jackie Hultine, from SE Portland, and Carrie Swanson, from Baker City, were very impressed with the quality of this conference. Please read their thoughts in this edition of Timberlines.

The end of October was difficult for ORBIDA with the departure of Lynetta Weswig as our Information and Referral Consultant. I think Lynetta has held every office on our board and has been a wonderful force in the development of ORBIDA for many years. We will attempt to cover most of her duties, but it will not be the same. We will miss her greatly. She isn't going far, however – just one desk over to assume the coordinator's role for Language Skills Therapy!

With less than a month left for holiday shopping, please consider Our Children's Store located at the Lloyd Center this year. The store is located on the upper level just inside the northeast entrance next to Marshalls, and with ample free parking. There are so many unique gifts that you are sure to find something for even the most difficult to buy for on your list. Remember this is a major fundraiser for ORBIDA, and the more we sell the more we make!

Our 2008 ORBIDA conference in Corvallis, February 22-23, is rapidly approaching. The keynote address will be by Dr. Richard Olsen from the University of Colorado at Boulder. Be sure to read more information in this newsletter and keep checking our website for updates and more details: www.orbida.org/events.asp

Guinevere Eden was originally scheduled to present a keynote address but happily is expecting her first child just prior to our conference. While she cannot join us in 2008,

Continued on next page...

**TimberLines Vol. 2007, No. 4
December 2007**

The
International
DYSLEXIA
Association

Promoting literacy through research, education, and advocacy.

ORBIDA Directory - 2007

President 06-07	Judy Wright
Vice President 06-07	Dale Holloway
Secretary 06-07	Steve Isaacson
Treasurer 07-08	Gary Wright

Director 07-09	Cheryl Anthony
Director 07-08	Susie Billstein
Director 05-07	Debra Brooks
Director 05-07	Jim Hanson
Director 07-09	Jennifer Jocz
Director 07-09	Colleen O'Mahony
Director 07-08	VACANT
Director 07-07	Shelby Park
Director 07-09	Donna Root

Information & Referral	VACANT
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Toll Free:	1-800-520-2234
E-Mail:	info@orbida.org
Website:	www.orbida.org

"The International Dyslexia Association supports efforts to provide individuals with dyslexia with appropriate instruction and to identify these individuals at an early age. The Association believes that multisensory teaching and learning is the best approach currently available for those affected by dyslexia."

"The Association, however, does not endorse any specific program, speaker, or instructional materials, noting that there are a number of such which present the critical components on instruction as defined by the Association's Teacher Education Issues Committee."

**Founded in memory of
Samuel T. Orton**

President's Message

Continued from previous page...

she promised to come for our conference in February 2009 in the Portland area. I saw her in Dallas, and she is looking forward to coming to Oregon soon. We now have Guinevere Eden, Louisa Moats, and Anita Archer confirmed for 2009. What a powerhouse lineup! Sharon Marsh and Steve Isaacson are the co-chairs and will provide more information as it becomes available.

And speaking about fabulous conferences, don't forget that IDA is coming to Seattle in October 2008! This conference will be "full circle" for me. Dorothy Whitehead, my master teacher and mentor, took me to my first IDA conference in Seattle in 1983 and what a gift it was! I've been hooked ever since. Not only are the IDA conferences informative, educational and fun, they are reaffirming. For any of us who work with or live with dyslexics, they are also highly addictive!

This fall has been quite eventful for ORBIDA and I look forward to the new year with new board members, another outstanding branch conference, the many opportunities we already have and those we plan to make -- together.

Judy Wright, ORBIDA President



Counseling & Tutoring Services Specializing in work with children & adolescents

Learning Disabilities Dyslexia Attention Deficit Disorder

Tricia Walsh-Coughlan M.S.
Mary W. Simensen M.Ed., LMHC

400 E Evergreen Blvd. Suite 322-C Vancouver, WA 98660
360 - 699 - 1563

ORBIDA's Annual Conferences

Premier professional development for all

***Mark your calendars!
Save these dates!***

2009:

- February 27-28 (Friday and Saturday, 8:00 AM to 5:00 PM)
- Portland metropolitan area
- **Dr. Anita Archer**
- **Dr. Guinevere Eden**
- **Dr. Louisa Cook Moats**

2010:

- February 26-27 (Friday and Saturday, 8:00 AM to 5:00 PM)
- Location TBD

***Be sure to check the ORBIDA website, www.orbida.org, for details.
See you there!***

2007-2008 Lecture Series



The Oregon Branch is proud to announce the launch of its first-ever lecture series designed to provide a wide range of information that is current, topical, and important for parents, professionals, and all who may be interested in or impacted by language and literacy issues.

The first two lectures were well attended and well received – Susan Barton in October, and Diane Wiscarsin in November. Following is the lineup for early 2008. Check our ORBIDA website -- www.orbida.org -- for more details.

January 8, 2008 – Response to Intervention and the Achievement Aptitude Identification

Speakers: **Jim Hanson**, OSPA; **Steve Isaacson**, PSU
Location: Thomas Edison High School, 9020 SW Beaverton-Hillsdale Highway, Portland (behind Jesuit HS)
Time: 7:00 PM – 9:00 PM
Cost: Free, a donation of \$5 per person is requested
Summary: This lecture will include a brief look at two approaches to identification and intervention for students with learning differences.

February 5, 2008 – Accommodations and Modifications in the Classroom

Speaker: **Cheryl Anthony**, Successful Learning Educational Services
Location: Thomas Edison High School, 9020 SW Beaverton-Hillsdale Highway, Portland (behind Jesuit HS)
Time: 7:00 PM – 9:00 PM
Cost: Free, a donation of \$5 per person is requested
Summary: Learn about available and effective accommodations for dyslexic students. Cheryl will discuss the difference between accommodation and modification, common classroom accommodations, and how to use them in the classroom.

March 4, 2008 – High School Considerations for Dyslexic Students

Speaker: **Ruth Wilson**, Educational Advancement Academy
Location: Thomas Edison High School, 9020 SW Beaverton-Hillsdale Highway, Portland (behind Jesuit HS)
Time: 7:00 PM – 9:00 PM
Cost: Free, a donation of \$5 per person is requested
Summary: High school credits and graduation requirements, academic demands of high school and accommodations that may be helpful for dyslexic students at this level, and the process for requesting appropriate accommodations for the SAT, ACT and WASL tests will be discussed.

April 8, 2008 – The Multisensory Approach

Speaker: Judy Wright, ORBIDA
Location: Thomas Edison High School, 9020 SW Beaverton-Hillsdale Highway, Portland (behind Jesuit HS)
Time: 7:00 PM – 9:00 PM
Cost: Free, a donation of \$5 per person is requested
Summary: The International Dyslexia Association has identified a number of multi-sensory programs that are commercially available for use for remediation of dyslexia. This lecture will discuss those programs.

May 6, 2008 – TBD

Speaker: TBD
Location: Thomas Edison High School, 9020 SW Beaverton-Hillsdale Highway, Portland (behind Jesuit HS)
Time: 7:00 PM – 9:00 PM
Cost: Free, a donation of \$5 per person is requested
Summary:

THE INTERNATIONAL DYSLEXIA ASSOCIATION

IDA MEMBERSHIP REGISTRATION

Name: _____
 Organization: _____
 Address: _____
 City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____ Country: _____
 E-mail: _____ YEAR you were born: _____
 Telephone (Work) _____ Telephone (Home) _____ Fax: _____
 Dyslexic Family Member? (if applicable): Spouse Self Child Sibling Friend



Promoting literacy through research, education, and advocacy.

CATEGORY:

YES, I would like to register/renew my membership in IDA at the membership level checked: (check one only)

- Individual \$70
- Individual/Sustaining \$150
- Individual/Supporting \$300
- Family \$110
- Institutional \$395
- Lifetime \$2000
- Corporate - Level 1 \$295
- Corporate - Level 2 \$795
- College Student \$40
- Retired \$45

In 2007, *Annals of Dyslexia*, including all archived back issues, will be available ONLINE free to all IDA Members. An optional print edition of Annals (2 volumes per yr.) is available for a fee of \$15.

Check here to receive *Annals of Dyslexia* print editions and please add the annual \$15 fee to your membership payment total below.

PROFESSIONAL INTEREST:

Please check the ONE category that BEST describes your occupation or professional interest:

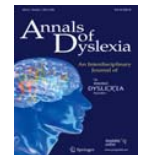
- Advocate
- Attorney
- College Student
- Corporation/Organization
- Educational Administrator
- Educational Diagnostician
- Special Education Teacher
- Teacher/Elem. or Secondary
- Teacher/Post-Secondary
- Parent
- Physician
- Psychiatrist
- Psychologist
- Reading Specialist
- Researcher/Educational
- Researcher/Medical
- Speech-Language Pathologist
- Tutor-Certified/ Educational Therapist
- Tutor-Trainee
- Other: _____

MEMBERSHIP BENEFITS:



PERSPECTIVES ON LANGUAGE AND LITERACY: IDA's quarterly publication discussing educational best practices, curriculum methods, case studies and first-person application of Multisensory Structured Language techniques.

IDA REFERRAL FOR SERVICES DATABASE. (see right).



ANNALS OF DYSLEXIA: IDA's semi-annual journal of the latest, peer-reviewed dyslexia research. Available online or as optional printed editions (2 vol/yr). IDA Members also have free online access to the *JOURNAL OF READING AND WRITING*.

LOCAL BRANCH AFFILIATION: Membership in any one of 47 IDA Local Branches throughout the U.S. or Canada.

PUBLICATION DISCOUNTS: Member-only pricing discounts on LD-related publications purchased through the IDA Online Bookstore.



IDA CONFERENCE: Discounted rates at the IDA National Conference.

BRANCH NEWSLETTER: Latest information, workshops and community-based information from your local Branch.

IDA REFERRAL FOR SERVICES DATABASE:

IDA SERVICE PROVIDER DATABASE:

IDA Headquarters in Baltimore, MD, receives hundreds of calls and emails each month from individuals and parents requesting LD resources in their local communities. As a service provider (tutor, specialist, school, etc.) your contact information can be included in this global referral database.

If you would like to be included in this referral database and receive an application for registration, please check the box indicated. Your contact information will remain active in the referral database during the time your membership in IDA remains active.

YES. I want my contact information included in the IDA Referral For Services Database. Send me a registration application.

PAYMENT:

- Check Enclosed (payable to The International Dyslexia Association) AMEX VISA MASTERCARD DISCOVER

CREDIT CARD #: _____ EXP. DATE: _____
 NAME ON CARD: _____
 BILLING ADDRESS ZIP CODE: _____
 SIGNATURE: _____

MEMBERSHIP FEE: joining renewing \$ _____
Annals of Dyslexia PRINT EDITION: \$15 (optional)..... \$ _____
TOTAL WITH THIS APPLICATION \$ _____

THE INTERNATIONAL DYSLEXIA ASSOCIATION

40 York Road ■ 4th Floor ■ Baltimore, MD 21204-5202 ■ Telephone: (410) 296-0232 ■ Fax: (410) 321-5069
Member@interdys.org www.interdys.org



2008 Conference Update • Corvallis - February 22-23

“Literacy Across the Spectrum”

Arrangements for the 2008 conference are moving forward at a rapid pace, and we look forward to welcoming everyone to the event on **February 22-23 in Corvallis**, on the campus of Oregon State University at the LaSells-Stewart Center. Please check the ORBIDA website often for further details, and look for the conference flyer in the mail.

KEYNOTE (Friday morning):

Dr. Richard K. Olson, University of Colorado, Boulder
“Genetic and Environmental Influences on Reading Ability and Disability”

Evidence will be presented from identical and fraternal twins’ behavior and their DNA regarding the genetic and environmental influences on reading disability or dyslexia.

Also discussed will be the evidence on genetic and environmental influences on individual differences in reading ability across the normal range from his International Longitudinal Twin Study that assessed children from preschool through the 4th grade.

He will conclude with a discussion of the implications of his behavioral and molecular genetic research for the remediation of reading disabilities and for improving literacy in the general population. He will also note some implications of the research for the current debates about “No Child Left Behind”.

RTI PANEL (Saturday morning):

Petrea Hagen-Gilden and Joyce Woods, Tigard-Tualatin, **Drew Braun and Ginger Kowalko**, Bethel, and **Sherri Deal**, Beaverton – comparing and contrasting implementation of RTI models in larger urban vs. smaller rural school districts, and the implications for administrators, teachers, and parents.

WORKSHOPS (Friday and Saturday):

Chris Borgmeier, Ph.D., Portland State University
“Positive Behavior Support: The relationship between student behavior and literacy.”

The relationship between student behavior and literacy will be examined from a Positive Behavior Support approach. Application of a three-tiered prevention model for behavior and literacy will be discussed with emphasis on the benefit of mutual efforts. Implications for student behavioral and reading intervention will also be provided.

Julie Esparza-Brown, Portland State University
“Distinguishing Dyslexia from Cultural, Linguistic and Experiential Difference”

With the rapid increase of culturally and linguistically diverse students, educators are often faced with trying to discern whether a struggling reader may be dyslexic or whether their background (first and second language proficiency, acculturation, socioeconomic status, amount of formal schooling) may be a major factor impacting

their success. This session will provide a framework for gathering critical information within the RTI framework while exploring a student’s ecology, as well as a method for interpreting standardized assessment outcomes that considers the cultural loading and linguistic demands inherent in the tools.

Tony Ferro, Lexia Learning Systems
“Lexia Workshop”

The Lexia workshop will provide a demonstration of their reading and assessment software. Lexia products provide a strong reading supplement using systematic phonics instruction in the classroom. The software is designed to help all students improve reading skills. Students will receive the added practice and repetition if needed. Their automatic branching system, which customizes the instruction, and skills delivered to students, allows students to work independently so they can progress at their own pace.

Karen Jordan, Willamette ESD
“Autism Spectrum Disorder: Practical Applications and Supports for Success”

The presentation will focus on examining the underlying deficits of Autism Spectrum Disorder, the unique learning style of individuals with ASD across the spectrum and implications for instructional strategies. The presentation will include identifying critical lifelong goals and basic supports for families and school staff to increase academic and social success.

Kathleen Jungjohann, M.A., University of Oregon
“Direct and Explicit Instruction in the Five Big Ideas in Reading”

In this session you will learn how to apply direct and explicit instruction to the five big ideas in reading. Instructional design and delivery guidelines will be provided with examples for teaching phonemic awareness, phonics, fluency, vocabulary, and comprehension skills and strategies. Participants will learn how to adapt existing curriculum into a direct instruction format for more effective instruction for struggling readers.

Ken Kosco, Western Oregon University
“Measure Twice Cut Once: A Process for Assessing Learning Disabilities in Adults with an Emphasis on Postsecondary and Work Settings”

This presentation will provide practical information and a process that can be used by providers to facilitate comprehensive, vocationally oriented, adult learning disability assessments. Specific tools will be reviewed for the purpose of determining strengths and weaknesses that impact the adult’s academic achievement and performance in postsecondary and work settings. There will be discussion around needed documentation, the impact of LD on an individual, assessment options, instruments, integrating self-determination into the assessment process, and accommodations.

Continued on next page...

Literacy Across the Spectrum

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Glenn Weybright, M.S., CCC-SLP
**“THAT’S EASY FOR YOU TO SAY: The Amazing
Acquisition of Oral Language
in Preschool Children”**

This presentation will look in detail at the development of spoken language in children from birth through age five years. The focus will be on oral language acquisition as the miracle that it is, and will examine development in the areas of receptive language, expressive language, articulation and phonology, the development of fluency, and the development of language pragmatics (the social rules for the use of language). The speaker will discuss the development of semantics, morphology, and syntax. Specific norms will be given, precursors necessary for language development will be listed, and participants will learn more about the relationship between learning to talk and learning to read. The speaker will use examples from his clinical experience as a speech-language pathologist to illustrate his presentation.

Ron Yoshimoto, M.Ed., Hawai’i Dept. of Education, Honolulu
“The Advanced Language or Morphology”

Hands-on training for grades 3 through high school (emphasis on the older students). Limit of 25 participants.

“OG Integration”

Hands-on training for elementary to intermediate (intermediate remedial). How to integrate with science, math, social studies, thinking skills, grammar and vocabulary. Limit of 50 participants, and registrants should have had some MSL training.

Mary Scarlato, Ph.D., Western Oregon University
**“Thank You for Helping Me Feel Smart: Teaching Content
Reading for Life Changing Results”**

Students with learning disabilities often lack reading and study skills to learn science and social studies content. This results in a loss of self-confidence in their ability to learn at all. In this workshop teachers will learn a systematic approach to successfully teach students how to learn, what to learn, and how to attain subject area mastery equivalent to grade level peers. This systematic approach will benefit the teacher by providing a framework which will save time and frustration and can provide teachers with greater confidence in their ability to help students succeed.

Marcy Stein, Ph.D., University of Washington-Tacoma
“Evaluating and Modifying Reading Intervention Programs”

In this session, Dr. Stein will review major research findings in the area of reading and discuss how those findings can inform instructional practice. Dr. Stein will discuss how to use research in the development of evaluation criteria for examining instructional materials, specifically reading intervention materials. Finally, she will discuss ways to modify those materials to best meet the needs of struggling readers.

Words on those Nonverbal “Words” - Punctuation Marks

The history of punctuation marks is rarely taught to students and yet the conventions of periods, commas, colons, and all those other strange little marks tend to be taught, and re-taught, and re-re-taught. These seemingly unimportant marks are really a type of morpheme, or message, that the writer must use to make flat print both come alive and convey a clear meaning.

One way to teach students the importance of punctuation marks is to eliminate them completely; another is to teach students the history of these marks.

Writing without any regard to spacing and punctuation is one way to teach students why writing conventions came into existence and to emphasize that teachers around the world did not invent punctuation marks to make students miserable.

Writing the above message on the board without regard to punctuation or spacing usually brings home the reason for these conventions. For those who want to know more, a few history facts help.

What are the three oldest punctuation marks? According to Miriam Balmuth in *The Roots of Phonics*, these are “ . : , “ However, these marks didn’t start out as marks. The ancient Greeks originally wrote out these symbols in word form (*periodus*, *kolon*, *komma*) to help public orators identify rhythmical units of speech. The speaker would take a long breath when he read *periodus*, a medium sized breath when he read *kolon*, and a short breath when he read *komma*.

In the 3rd century B.C. these punctuation words turned into punctuation marks or points. Almost a thousand years passed, however, before the use of punctuation marks to set off units of meaning rather than rhythm and breath came into existence, all thanks to Isadore of Seville who lived in the 7th century A.D.

Other interesting facts are that the ! originally was used to convey admiration, the ? was called *punctus interrogativus* and used to look like a ~ hovering over a . , and quotation marks were initially used only at the beginning of every line of quoted text but never at the end of the quote.

Thanks to Mary Gilroy, Southwest Branch of IDA, Taos, NM

2008 ORBIDA Scholarship Application

33rd Annual Conference – Corvallis, Oregon – February 22-23, 2008

Full Name:	Date:
Street Address:	Home Phone:
City, State, Zip:	Work Phone:
Fax:	E-Mail Address:
School District:	Current Position:
Years of Teaching Experience:	Grades Taught:
Professional Credentials Held:	Are you currently a student? If yes, name of college or university attending:
Are you a member of IDA now?	If yes, IDA Member ID (from your membership card) and date of expiration:
Have you attended previous IDA or Oregon Branch conferences? If yes, what years?	Have you previously received a scholarship from the IDA or the Oregon Branch? If yes, what date(s)?

Continued on reverse

2008 ORBIDA Scholarship Application

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Please state your reasons for wanting to attend our 2007 conference:

Please state how you would use the information, techniques and strategies learned at our conference:

Please state your philosophy and motivation for working with children and/or adults with learning differences:

Please state your financial need for this scholarship:

Please write how the needs of "at risk" children are being met in your local area:

SCHOLARSHIP DEADLINE: January 10, 2008

E-Mail completed application to: info@orbida.org, or

Mail completed application to: ORBIDA Scholarship, 2525 NW Lovejoy Street, Suite 406, Portland, OR 97210-2865

QUESTIONS? Call 503-228-4455 or 1-800-530-2234

“Literacy and Language in the Lone Star State”

IDA presented its 58th annual international conference in Dallas, Texas on October 31 through November 3. Attended by about 3,000 eager individuals from far and wide, this four-day educational extravaganza provided something for everyone. From the fascinating and challenging workshops, the inspiring lectures, the poster sessions and exhibitions, and the many opportunities for networking, this conference was top-notch.

The weather also cooperated magnificently, providing sunny and warm days that allowed busy conference-goers the chance to step outside during breaks and enjoy the sunshine, and of course the warm Dallas hospitality both inside and out. The Adam’s Mark Hotel and conference center was a great venue.

Oregon was represented by several members and friends of ORBIDA including Jackie Hultine (Portland), Carol Nielson (West Linn), Laura Quinn (West Linn), Carrie Swanson (Baker City), Pattie Volk (Corvallis), Lynetta & Chuck Weswig (Portland), and Judy and Gary Wright (Aloha).

Through the generosity of Cherida Collins Smith ORBIDA was again proud to offer scholarships to this conference, and Jackie Hultine and Carrie Swanson were the recipients in 2007. Following are their thoughts on the experience:

IDA in Dallas

With a warm and sunny backdrop, the IDA annual conference in Dallas exceeded all my expectations. We were all treated to the latest research on brain plasticity with a message full of hope and possibility.

From there the conference continued to pack vital, useful information into the remaining 3 days. As I think back on the conference (and even while there) rejuvenation is a word I’d use to describe my feelings. Many of the sessions were refreshers on previously learned information that led to a renewed sense of purpose and confidence.

The importance of working with students as early as possible with sound, evidence-based materials was reiterated. Another exciting aspect of the conference was the variety of choices available including those related to math and writing. Each presenter was professional, talented and able to

share information in a way that was immediately useful.

All in all I’d say that the conference delivered a powerful dose of research, practical information and exciting new tools.

Jackie Hultine, Portland



Judy Wright presents Jackie Hultine her scholarship check at the Dallas conference

This year’s annual conference of the International Dyslexia Association was an experience filled with information, ideas and opportunity. I was awarded a scholarship through the Oregon Branch of the International Dyslexia Association (ORBIDA), and sponsored by Ms. Cherida Collins Smith, which made it possible for me to attend four inspiring days of this prestigious conference.

At this conference I was impressed with the overall organization and selection of seminars and presentations. From poster sessions to keynote speakers, each presenter was excellent and provided information which was useful and intriguing. It was a challenge to select only one session for each time slot, as there were so many options from which to choose. I was interested in enhancing my skills and knowledge base in the areas of vocabulary development and reading comprehension, and I was able to attend at least five sessions targeted for those areas.

The session options included a great blend of research based information and practical application, with areas of focus available for students, parents, teachers, specialists and administrators. I learned more about recent research driven by the newest imaging techniques, and was able to learn about the science of specific disabilities, as well as potential implications for learning and designing instruction for students with disabilities.

I feel fortunate to have attended this conference, and walked away with all my expectations having been met, and look forward to sharing what I’ve learned with my colleagues. My professional skills have been enhanced by what I’ve learned, and I’m certain that the students I serve will benefit from my experience at this year’s IDA conference.



Thanks to Ms. Cherida Collins Smith, and the Oregon Branch of the International Dyslexia Association for providing me with this opportunity!

Carrie Swanson, Baker City

Judy Wright presents Carrie Swanson her scholarship check at the Dallas conference

Some members of the “Oregon delegation” enjoyed dinner together at a local restaurant one evening, including our scholarship recipients.

*From left:
Jackie
Hultine,
Laura
Quinn,
Lynetta
and Chuck
Weswig,
Carrie
Swanson,
Judy
Wright*



Transitions

ORBIDA's annual membership meeting was held on Wednesday evening, November 28, at the CDRC on the campus of Oregon Health and Science University in Portland. Apart from reports from the various committees updating on activities since our last annual meeting, the primary order of business was to hold annual elections.

We congratulate the following on their election:

Officers (Executive Committee):

President	Judy Wright	Term January 1, 2008 through December 31, 2009
Vice-President	Cheryl Anthony	Term January 1, 2008 through December 31, 2008
Secretary	Lee Ann Sharman *	Term January 1, 2008 through December 31, 2009
Treasurer	Gary Wright	Term January 1, 2008 through December 31, 2008

** new to the Board of Directors*

Directors:

Position # 5	Shelbe Park	Term January 1, 2008 through December 31, 2009
Position # 8	Debra Brooks	Term January 1, 2008 through December 31, 2010

Nominating Committee:

Position # 1	Steve Isaacson	Term January 1, 2008 through December 31, 2008
Position # 2	Dale Holloway	Term January 1, 2008 through December 31, 2009

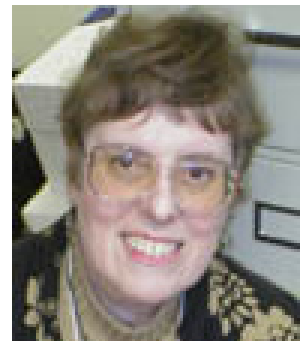
There were three positions on the 9-member board that are presently unfilled, and President Judy Wright will be working with the Nominating Committee to identify qualified candidates for appointment to serve until the next annual meeting in late 2008.

If you would be interested in serving on our board or committees, please contact **Susie Billstein**, chair of the Nominating Committee, at info@orbida.org to discuss opportunities.

We are pleased that the following individuals will be continuing in their elected roles as directors during 2008: **Susie Billstein, Jennifer Jocz, Colleen O'Mahony, and Donna Root.**

We also bid farewell to the following individuals who are completing their commitments on the board effective December 31, 2007: **Dale Holloway**, Vice President; **Steve Isaacson**, Secretary; and **Jim Hanson**, Director. Each was presented an engraved crystal mug as a token of our appreciation for their service to ORBIDA.

Judy also presented our former Information & Referral consultant, **Lynetta Weswig**, with an engraved crystal vase as an expression of our thanks for her 8 years of service in that role. Lynetta "created" her role as our first (and only) I&R consultant shortly after ORBIDA moved into its own office space at the beginning of 2000, she organized the office and has kept the flow of information moving ever since. Her contributions to I&R and her prior service as president and member of the board and committees are deeply appreciated and we will miss her.



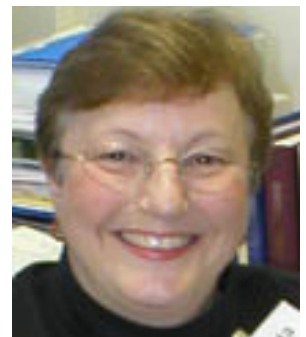
Dale



Steve



Jim



Lynetta

Welcome to our newest members:

Jackie Hultine, Portland
Jean Cohen, Portland
Jennifer Pultz, Portland
Tiffany Jones, Portland
Vicki Shorb, Medford

...and to those who have renewed - thank you!

Anita August, Portland
Barbara McAllister, Portland
Bonna Harwood, Portland
Boys & Girls Club of Portland
Metropolitan Area, Portland
Carol Nielsen, West Linn
Debra Maguire, Portland
Doris Eisele, Portland
Eileen Eckart, Portland
Gloria Wyffels, Beaverton
James Hanson, Portland
Jana Swedo, Forest Grove
John Anderson, Portland

Judith McMillan, Portland
Judy Wright, Aloha
Julie Hiefield, Portland
Karen Pfunder, Eugene
Kay Kaplan, Portland
Linda Broussard, Beaverton
Marian Montgomery, LaGrande
Marjorie Gwilliam, Portland
Marjorie Smith, Portland
Martha Morgan, Portland
Michael Dunn, Vancouver
Myrna Soule, Tigard
Pat Robb, Portland

Rachel Velez, Eagle Creek
Sanford Shapiro, Bend
Saundra Rassi, Boring
Sharon Cody Marsh, Boring
Shirley Hansen, Lake Oswego
Suzanne Wright, Albany
Thomas Gay, Portland

The names listed above represent membership activity since June 2007, and do not include all members of ORBIDA.

"Clearing the Haze"

One of the most gratifying experiences a teacher or tutor can have is being recognized for making a difference in the life of a student, and of that student's family.

The following poem was sent to one of our members by the mother of an elementary school student:

DISLXEA

I do not see the way
The rest of you see.

I might look at an E and
Think of a tree.

All of those words that
Pop off your page.

To me they look like
An unsolvable maze.

But give me a problem,
Difficult in form.

And I will solve it
Different from the norm.

My mind flows different
From the rest.

I probably will not ace
That test.

But my thinking skills
They will amaze.

If you help me clear
The haze.

Of the words and numbers
On that page.

*Thank you for dedicating your time and talents
to clearing the haze.*

The following note was received by Dale Holloway, founder and coordinator of our Reversals Groups, from a grateful dad, Mitch:

"It is always good to hear good stories, to see how it wound up.

"My son Alexander attended several Reversals Group meetings a few years back around his junior/senior year of high school. I liked the meetings also as it gave us direction and hope as it was very encouraging seeing the kids from college, proving it was possible. Alex had nothing severe just a processing problem but we were told by experts not to expect him to be able to go to college just worry about getting thru high school.

"Alex was very determined and kept his eye on the ball and actually with extremely hard work, that is, much longer hours than his contemporary group he got through high school with a B average. He was accepted to the University of Oregon.

"This past week he graduated with honors from the University of Oregon. He did not get to go to parties or screw around and kept very focused, this came from deep inside. A lot of things played a role and most assuredly the role models that you portray at Reversals, through your leadership, played an extremely important part as it was an image of possibility that stayed with him.

"We are all very proud of him as I know you unknowingly until this moment are also. For all that Ms. Holloway, Jean and I and Alex of course, thank you very much."

Subsequently Mitch reported that Alex was in New York seeking a career in the sales arena. All of us at ORBIDA congratulate Alex and his supportive parents, and wish them all the best! Thanks for sharing your story.

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Oregon Branch Mission Statement
The Oregon Branch of the International Dyslexia Association will increase awareness of dyslexia throughout our region. We will actively promote teaching approaches and other strategies that will benefit children and adults with dyslexia.



The International Dyslexia Association Purpose Statement
To pursue and provide the most comprehensive range of information and services that address the full scope of dyslexia and related difficulties in learning to read and write, in such a way that creates hope, possibility and partnership, and society benefits from the resource that is liberated.

