

Hannah Mann—Cornett Scholarship Winner

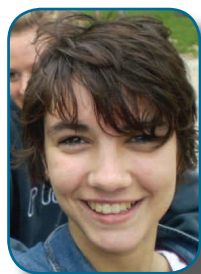
by Sarah Segal

When the father of Cued Speech departed from this life, he left behind a tabula rasa—a fresh new purpose for young, deaf pioneers: educating others about their successes with Cued Speech. Hannah Mann, the recipient of the 2009 R. Orin Cornett Memorial Scholarship recognizes that being part of a community means giving back to the community that enabled her to grow and succeed.

Kari Sue Mann enrolled her four-year-old daughter at the Alexander Graham Bell Montessori School (AGBMS) in Mount Prospect, Illinois, an hour from home, with the hopes of one day hearing

her child speak or read her first words for the first time. Today, 15 years since her initial exposure to Cued Speech at AGBMS, Hannah is enrolled as a sophomore in the Honors College at the University of Wisconsin in Milwaukee (UWM), where she currently maintains a 4.0 grade point average. Hannah credits her outstanding academic record to Cued Speech.

In addition to her success as a student,



Hannah Mann

Hannah has taken measures to expose her college community to Cued Speech. “Before I came to UWM, there were only ASL (American Sign Language) interpreters and captionists,” she said. “Now UWM has five Cued Speech transliterators and more of their ASL interpreters are taking training for Cued Speech transliteration.”

Former UWM student advisor Cassie Franklin, who recommended Hannah for the scholarship award, reflected on her experience with Hannah and reasons for recommending her. “Hannah is the first Cued Speech user I’ve had to work with.

Hannah Mann, continued on page 12

Kris Wilson Cue Camp Scholarship

by Trenna Wilson, daughter of Kris Wilson

Editor’s Note: Of the three NCSA scholarships, two of them are on behalf of the Shuler-Wilson family, based in California. The Shuler Memorial Scholarship supports cuers from the West region attending college. The Kris Wilson Cue Camp scholarship supports families from the West region who want to attend a Cue Camp on the east coast. Kris Wilson’s daughter, Trenna Wilson, contributed the following article. We thank her for her time in putting this together.



Kris and Dan Wilson (courtesy of Trenna Wilson)

The family of Kristine Shuler Wilson celebrates her enthusiasm for Cued Speech with a Cue Camp Scholarship established in her memory. We would like to thank those who have contributed to it, and to congratulate those who use it to learn to cue.

Kris learned about Cued Speech from her stepmother, Carol Shuler, who used cueing with a profoundly deaf student in rural California, starting in the 1980s. Like Carol, Kris studied Speech Pathology and Audiology, earning her BA and MA from California State University, Chico. She earned both degrees with honors, wrote her

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President's Message

by Josh Libby

It should hardly surprise anyone when I say that these challenging economic times not only circumvent the globe, they penetrate all sectors of society and plague entire industries, and present a real challenge to the very individuals that make up our society. We all make the best of what we have and decide what we envision is important to us and to our values as we go about our daily lives.

Non-profit organizations everywhere are seeing their budgets slashed as donations have slowed to a trickle, causing major, but necessary, cutbacks. These days, a donor's dollar may represent security to the donor; however, that very dollar represents a vital link of survival to the non-profit. We have managed to survive this latest round of economic troubles, but not without some sacrifice and the realization we have had to make some very difficult choices.

The NCSA is intensely proud that we are annually recognized by the Combined Federal Campaign as the Best of the CFC, an honor given to less than one percent of non-profits, for being a model of stewardship of the precious funds given to us by you, foundations and charitable giving programs. Despite the fact that donations have slowed significantly due to the economy, we tightened our belts and managed to meet our goals and remain debt-free. This is in itself an amazing accomplishment. The overall financial state of the NCSA is stable.

On a positive note, the NCSA is the recipient of an educational grant from the Ronald and Mary Ann Lachman Foundation (Chicago, IL) that enables us to develop a unique retreat. Our Director of Camps and Affiliates, Aaron Rose, has long wanted this retreat and worked with other board members to submit a proposal for funding. This retreat workshop will bring together native adult deaf cuers to strengthen their

knowledge of Cued Speech and help them become leaders and ambassadors. This is a way to help us educate even more people about Cued Speech and make it more nationally recognized and strengthened for generations to come.

We are also proud of a new initiative to help us raise needed funds and stay within our mission. In October, we will launch our inaugural nationwide "Give Literacy a Hand" Read-a-thon. This Read-a-thon will raise awareness about Cued Speech and the importance of reading and literacy among the deaf and hard of hearing populations, as well as children with other pervasive language and communication disorders. Not only are we promoting reading amongst all of America's children, we are developing mutual partnerships with participating schools and educational programs to help raise funds for this Read-a-thon. These funds will further the educational purpose of the schools, and we will receive a portion of each school's fundraising total so that we may continue our mission of promoting literacy through Cued Speech. Through the dedicated work of Maria Gildea, our Vice President of Fundraising, we now have several fundraising vehicles available to encourage participation of not only our membership, but also the general public at large. For example, we have the NCSA Hearing Aid Recycling Program and our new MissionFish Program designed to allow buyers or sellers to donate to the NCSA any or all proceeds from purchases and sales (made possible through eBay's Giving Works Program).

Recognizing the value of social networking sites, we too are eager and loyal participants on Facebook and on Twitter (@CuedSpeech). Follow us on Twitter, as we strive to provide news or information about the NCSA, affiliates, camps, workshops, and much more.

President's Message, continued on page 3

President's Message, continued

We are constantly working towards developing new partnerships as a way to approach our philanthropic mission with creativity so we can continue to achieve our mission and goals.

Although the current economic climate is comparably bleak, we must remind you that we are a truly dedicated volunteer-based organization and each one of our members has made personal sacrifices and will continue to do so. We remain at your mercy to donate to us that dollar that you may view as your security. We have come so far these past 27 years, and we have the momentum to go even further, deeper and wider, continuing the work of Dr. R. Orin Cornett. We need your help now, most of all, and donating online is easy. Just go to www.cuedspeech.org and click on the red button that says "Help a Deaf Child Today."

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Click on
"Help a Deaf Child Today"
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Editor's Note

by Aaron Rose

Reading has always been a passion of mine growing up. I remember taking multiple visits to the library within a week due to my voracious reading appetite. Yet it wasn't until recently that I realized that the more you read, the more language you gain, and the better your reading skills become. Reading is something that can only be enhanced through more reading.

Numerous research articles report that Cued Speech has a significant impact on deaf and hard of hearing children's language development. Phonological awareness is critical in bottom-up reading skills, which some children may lack due to the inability to process auditory information or other reasons.

The National Cued Speech Association through its Deaf Children's Literacy Project has created the "Give Literacy a Hand" Read-a-thon. We hope this will become an annual event highlighting the importance of literacy, especially among deaf and hard of hearing children.

Through this Read-a-thon the NCSA aims to support schools and raise awareness of Cued Speech as a means for improving literacy. Literacy is the end result of language development as children grow up learning to read and write. Children should be encouraged to

read as often as they can.

Dr. R. Orin Cornett's drive to improve the literacy rates of deaf children resulted in his creating Cued Speech, forever changing the lives of many families around the world. Parents of the first generation of deaf cuers remarked at how much language their children had acquired from the onset of cueing with them. Cued Speech provided those children with access to spoken language through a visual medium.

Due to the novelty of Cued Speech many eyes were on those children in anticipation of seeing how they would turn out. Today those children have grown up and are highly literate adults engaged actively in the world in their own individual ways, clearly an indication of the success of Cued Speech and the support of family and educators.

Those native adult cuers will be able to find their own way of contributing to the Cued Speech community through CLEAR, or Cuers for Leadership, Education and Advocacy Retreat. Currently in development CLEAR, an NCSA program, will focus on native deaf and hard of hearing cuers 18 years old and up. The first CLEAR retreat is slated for the summer of 2010. Stay tuned for updates on this retreat and other NCSA programs.

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We are currently looking for people to serve as correspondents and photographers.

If you would like to contribute to On Cue, please contact us at oncue@cuedspeech.org.

The NCSA now has a new vice president on board — John Brubaker

by Esther Rimer



John Brubaker (Jose Leiva, Sun Journal)

Hailing from Lewiston, Maine, John currently works as Vice President of Sales for Turf Dawg USA, as well as coaches lacrosse at Lewiston High School. A veteran of sports broadcasting with ESPN and Fox Sports, with a decade of coaching college athletes under his belt, John has been very involved with the NCAA and lacrosse communities.

A three-time Coach of the Year recipient, with four teams finishing the

season ranked in the top 10 nationally, John has plenty of experience serving on boards, including the United States Intercollegiate Lacrosse Coaches Association (USILA), the USILA All-American Committee, and the NCAA Championship Regional Advisory Committee. Among his former student athletes are five Academic All-Americans and 15 who now work as coaches in high schools and colleges.

John discovered Cued Speech after his daughter was diagnosed with bilateral sensorineural hearing loss and the family sought the most effective and best communication option. "The decision was an easy one and the effectiveness and literacy results of Cued Speech obviously speak for themselves," says John. This experience with what he calls the "remarkable effectiveness" of Cued Speech, combined with his proven ability to bring the best out of athletes,

is what makes John a great choice to support the role of the NCSA and bring passion and inspiration to the board as Vice President.

Welcome to the NCSA Board, John!

Turf Dawgs



Our Spokesperson, Paul Rabil, the 2009 MLL Player of the Year, and TurfDawgUSA, have teamed up together on behalf of our cause. Available for purchase are Limited Edition Rabil's Army Turf Dawgs. 50% of all proceeds go to the NCSA. You get an awesome looking Dawg and a great feeling. Become a part of Paul's team! This Army won't be stopped.

www.turfdawgusa.com

NCSA 2009 Awards Nominations

Guide NCSA in honoring deserving people! You are encouraged to nominate people in the following categories with the information requested below. Forms are available also at www.cuedspeech.org.

Cueing Service Awards will be given to those providing invaluable support to Cued Speech, to families, or to young people who are deaf or hard of hearing and use Cued Speech. These will be given to people who have given service above and beyond the call of duty on a local or regional level.

- Instructors and transliterators and other cueing professionals may be nominated for giving exceptional help beyond what would be expected in their working role.

- Deaf cuers may be nominated for exceptional work done to support fellow cuers or cueing families, or to further the understanding and acceptance of Cued Speech.

- Awards may be suggested for SLPs, audiologists, teachers, administrators, and others not in the cueing community who have gone above and beyond what was required of them at critical times in the lives of deaf cueing children and their families.

- The Cueing Family Award is for dedicated parenting or support of a child or children who are deaf or hard of hearing and use Cued Speech. Family members or close friends whose support has been invaluable to a cueing child can be nominated for this award.

Submissions must arrive by mail, email, or fax by **January 31, 2010**.

Mail to:

Marianne Flanagan,
Chair Awards Committee
8307 Hawkview Manor Rd. N.W.
Calgary, AB Canada T3G 2Z6
Phone: 403-239-6988
FAX: 403-374-2227
E-mail: msfincal@shaw.ca

Please include the following information in your submission:

1. Category
2. Nominee name, address, phone number, email
3. Description of the nominee's involvement with Cued Speech
4. Your contact information

Deaf Cuer Profile: Tate Tullier

by Zainab Alkebsi

Editor's Note: The following interview with Tate Tullier was edited for length.

On Cue: Let's start from the beginning. How and at what age did your parents find out you were deaf? Do they know what caused it or not?

Tate Tullier: I think I wasn't even one [year old] yet when they realized I wasn't responding to noise, then from there, we saw a doctor.

OC: From there, what steps were taken?

TT: My parents started using sign language but when Mrs. Barbara Lee moved to our community to spearhead the cueing program, it was music to my mother's ears. I started school right away at the LeBlanc Special Services in Gonzales, Louisiana, and from there I was mainstreamed all the way throughout my education.

OC: What were the main challenges or obstacles you faced? How did you overcome them?

TT: I think the main challenges/obstacles that I face are very similar to every other deaf person. I think we all vary in how we handle the pressures of being a deaf individual in this hearing world.

OC: How has Cued Speech helped you thus far?

TT: Definitely with the education I received—it was a huge factor in how I learned how to read and write. It came in handy when I did speech therapy. It's based on the English language so, how can it not? As of now, I rarely cue, but do still cue when I'm with my parents or a cueing friend here and there.

OC: Where did you go to college and what was your major?

TT: I went to LSU [Louisiana State University], SLU [Southeastern Louisiana University], BRCC [Baton

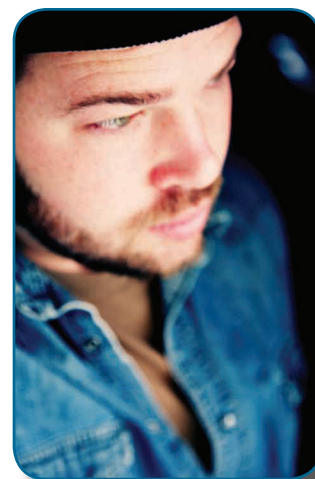
Rouge Community College], and back to LSU but didn't feel like I found my calling until I went to Gallaudet University in Washington, DC. What an amazing experience for me it was! I majored in Studio Arts 2D with a concentration in Photography.

OC: I must say that I am a fan of your photography! Can you elaborate on any obstacles in your profession? What do you love most about it?

TT: Thank you so much for the compliment. I really love what I do. I like to say that being deaf is what made me really fall in love with photography. I don't think I would have fallen into the same career if I were hearing. I love being the person someone goes to trust with capturing lifetime memories whether it be a wedding or a simple portrait session. It's always an honor. I think at first when I envisioned myself as a photographer—it was to be world famous in the fashion industry and so on but it was difficult getting my foot into the business. There were times when people would say, "Oh, you can't answer the phone"... which I laugh at because look at where technology is today—who the hell needs a phone, deaf OR hearing!? I just take it day by day and continue to grow [and] experience, and what I LOVE most about my photography—it is like playtime, not even work!

OC: Also, I heard about your \$1,000 donation to the charity (LA School of the Deaf) and the potential to give \$10,000 for the same charity. That's great! How did you get interested and involved in that charity? What do you hope to see come out of this?

[Editor's Note: Tate was nominated as one of 10 Trailblazers for Purple Communications. He received \$1,000 to donate to a charity of his choice and he selected the



Tate Tullier

Louisiana School for the Deaf after-school program.]

TT: Purple somehow had the ten Trailblazers nominated and they agreed on who the individuals were, and then contacted me to ask me if I'd like to take part in the campaign. The charity was my deal breaker because if I'm going to be able to get 10 grand for my charity just because I love my job—so be it!

OC: You got married a few years ago, which I'm sure must have been a highlight in your life! If I remember correctly, she's also a cuer?

TT: I married Sarah in 2004, and we just passed our 5-year anniversary! Time flies by so quickly! She grew up using sign language but when we started dating, she picked up on cueing pretty good.

OC: How do you view your journey up until now?

TT: It has been amazing! When I look at myself 10 years ago, I am so happy with where my path in life took me. I was able to grow even more as an individual by increasing my empowerment as a deaf individual. I strongly believe because I am so confident in myself as a deaf individual and because I focus on bettering myself in that way—instead of trying to "fit" in with the hearing world—that is what makes me succeed in life and with my photography

Tate Tullier, continued on page 9

25 years of Cueing at Camp Cheerio

by Aaron Rose and Esther Rimer

In 1985, a band of parents from North Carolina decided to come together and host a Cued Speech workshop. Little did those parents realize that the workshop would morph into a large camp supporting deaf and hard of hearing children and their families across various modalities 25 years later. Set against the backdrop of the Blue Ridge Mountains at YMCA Camp Cheerio.

Cue Camp Cheerio provided a means for families to share the one common bond that connected them together, Cued Speech. While children took part in recreational activities such as hiking on Stone Mountain or canoeing in the lake, parents took Cued Speech classes and attended professional presentations on various subjects ranging from audiology to speech to education.

The origins of Cue Camp Cheerio lie with Isabelle Payonk, who worked at the YMCA camp from 1966 to 1977 as a counselor and administrative staff. Her connections made Camp Cheerio the logical choice to hold the first Cued Speech “camp” in North Carolina for families and professionals. Payonk credits cueing families from Wilmington, NC, including the Sizemores, Nelsons, and Roses, for being “instrumental in ensuring the camp would continue.”

The camp saw its attendance increase from 75 at the first camp to 175 throughout the mid-1990s with families coming from as far as Pennsylvania and Louisiana. Penny Hakim (LA) described her first experience at Cue Camp Cheerio in 1989 when her oldest son, Abraham, was three years old.

“It was Abraham’s and my first ‘total immersion’ into the Cued Speech World. I wanted to go for several reasons. I had learned how to cue when Abraham was 17 months old by taking a 5-hour class. I wanted to make sure that I was cueing correctly. I also needed support from

Cued Speech professionals and parents. I was the only person using Cued Speech in our area and I needed lots of information on how to introduce Cued Speech to our local school system.



Top and Bottom: Courtney Branscome and Sarah Pierce in 1992 and 2009 (Fran Rose & Aaron Rose)

“The first day when we walked into the cafeteria at Camp Cheerio, I knew I was in the right place. Tears came to my eyes as I saw my son’s expression when one of the dads approached him and started to cue to him. He was in complete wonder. He made friends at camp that are still his friends today. I made lifelong friends as well. Every parent I met had a unique story to tell about how they learned about Cued Speech.”

In the late 1990s, camp attendance declined as many of the first generation of deaf cuers had grown up and were going off on their own paths in life. It didn’t seem right for cueing families to continue going to camp without the presence of these deaf adult cuers. Consequently, the camp struggled to stay afloat and saw its lowest attendance

in the early 2000s.

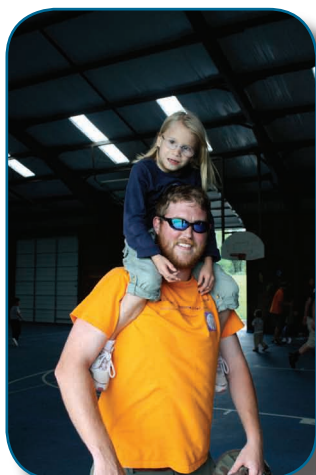
At this time, the North Carolina chapter of the AG Bell Association for the Deaf and Hard of Hearing came into the picture and helped transform the camp into a camp supporting all deaf and hard of hearing families. With an emphasis on spoken language through audition and Cued Speech, the camp found its own path back to the top and attendance started increasing again in 2005. According to Payonk, the change turned out to be a positive one. Said Payonk, “We need a place where our CS children and young adults must be showcased. They are tremendous examples of what CS can do!”

This year served as the 25th anniversary of what is now known as Spring Camp Cheerio. More than 250 were in attendance, including a large contingent of adult deaf cuers who served as volunteers for the children’s program. Volunteers included Will McKendree and Brad Gonsoulin, whose parents co-founded Cue Camp Virginia at Jamestown. McKendree explains his rationale for volunteering; “The importance of volunteering is to educate the kids with the importance of using Cued Speech while growing up so they can learn to speak and communicate better with the real world.”

Jake Elliot, an audiology undergraduate student at Purdue University in Indiana who has a cousin with a cochlear implant, marveled at the excitement the non-cueing deaf and hard of hearing kids showed. He stated, “It was awesome to see the kids get excited when they learned to cue their names and the word ‘canoe.’”

The camp presentations were especially fitting and compelling for this milestone year. Presenters included Ann McNally, Rachel Ragin, Holly Teagle, and Joni Alberg. In addition, one of the original Cue Camp Cheerio alumni, Catharine McNally, was on hand to

speak to parents about growing up with cueing and her non-profit business Keen Guides. The camp co-director, Eric Barber, also persuaded Josh Swiller, the author of the recently published memoir, *The Unheard*, to speak about his experiences growing up deaf and working with the Peace Corps in Africa



*Will McKendree and Alyona Boyd
(Aaron Rose)*

As always, evening entertainment featured dancing, hayrides and ice cream. This year, instead of going to the nearby dance barn, camp planners created a barn dance inside the gym Friday night, which meant many more families (especially those with kids) were able to get a taste of the Virginia Wheel.

Saturday night during dinner, the adult deaf cuers presented Isabella with a memory book containing personal notes and photos of the many "Cue Kids," who spent one weekend each year running around the mountain. Cue Adults Aaron Rose, Abbey Nelson, Andy Payonk, and Catherine McNally also spoke. Courtney Branscome, another Cue Adult, is now the co-director of Spring Camp Cheerio for 2010, and said, "I was thinking that Isabelle had done such a wonderful job these past 25 years, and I was hoping

I can be the person she is when I take over as Co-director."

The camp held an ice cream social supplemented with a giant berry cake generously given by the YMCA camp staff in honor of the 25th year anniversary.

Next year's camp has additional significance in that it has an adult deaf cuer as a co-director, but the North Carolina Cued Speech Association (NCCSA) is now also being led by deaf cuers. Andy Payonk and his wife Stephanie, a masters graduate of Vanderbilt University in Deaf Education, are currently co-presidents, with Abbey Nelson serving as secretary. The NCCSA supports Spring Camp Cheerio while continuing to advocate for Cued Speech throughout the region.

On the transition of leadership from parents to deaf cuers, Andy said, "This is going to be a huge challenge for the first generation of deaf cuers of North Carolina taking over the reins of the NCCSA and Camp Cheerio. We will definitely use the same aspect of the way the parents of the first generation ran the weekend camp. There will be some obstacles, but I feel that they will easily be overcome if we work all together to thrive and make this weekend camp a great weekend to participate in."



Isabelle and Andy Payonk in 1987 (Fran Rose)

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The Origins of Cues on Tap

by Sarah Segal

"It was a nice, cool evening," MIT graduate Brad Buran said as he attempted to illustrate his earliest, most vivid memory of Cues on Tap, which began in Cambridge, MA. Brad and Tom Shull, a local transliterator, began organizing this community event in the summer of 2004. "Not too hot, not too cold. We hosted it at Cambridge Brewing Company at Kendall Square...right after the last night of an introduction to Cued Speech class that Tom Shull taught. We got many of our regulars, and there were approximately 20 people."

After brainstorming ways to teach classmates and friends Cued Speech sans the natural pressures of learning the system in a tense, academic setting, At the time, Buran and Shull were running a series of introductory workshops at MIT, and decided to create "Cues on Tap". Cues on Tap events allow cueing students, teachers, speech pathologists, interpreters, transliterators, and other professionals the opportunity to mingle, unwind and cue.

Buran says that his and Shull's intended purpose behind Cues on Tap in Boston worked: "It created an informal,

no-pressure environment for my friends and co-workers to practice...without feeling [like] they are being evaluated by us. It also had a very nice side benefit. As new people came to Cues on Tap, more experienced cuers would take them "under their wing" and teach them to cue. This gave them a lot of confidence.

"We encourage people to cue the whole time, but it is not mandatory," Buran added. "Some claim that they get better as they drink additional beers—however, it's really more that they stop checking everything they do and relax a bit. This makes the process [of cueing] a bit more natural for them."

Since Buran and Shull founded Cues on Tap during those balmy summer days, others have stepped up to the plate to organize Cues on Tap events in Boston; Rochester, NY; Washington, DC; and Austin, TX.

Current Rochester Cues on Tap organizer Megan Tobin has hosted the event at various locales, including The Distillery, MacGregors, The Tap and Mallet and The Lovin' Cup (a coffee shop), giving a chance for cuers to unite in the "evening for dinner or the

afternoon for coffee" and chat while cueing.

Tobin's Cues on Tap events in Rochester differs slightly from the ones held in Boston in that the bars and coffee shops serve as a location for cuers to congregate to and interact while cueing, but not as a spot to discuss the technicalities of cueing. "There has been some interest in introducing brief tutorials about technical cueing-related topics," Tobin said. "But we haven't gotten that far yet."

When asked what Cues on Tap meant to her, Tobin responded, "Cueing while having a nice, relaxing drink...[and] connecting with like-minded people with common interests."

Buran emphasized that Cues on Tap has taken a life of its own since he and Shull first started organizing the events. "I don't really have much personal investment in Cues on Tap...I am thrilled it has taken off in Boston and in other areas...[But Cues on Tap] is nothing like it was when Tom and I first got together with a bunch of cuers... The contribution of many people has helped shape this event; it is owned by the community."

Cue Camps 2009



Cue Camp Friendship: 5-7 year olds show their cueing skills (Mary-Beth Robie)



Cue Camp New England: Children on the Ropes Course (Aaron Rose)

Cue Retreat Confidence

by Sarah Druley

Camp Confidence Learning Center generously opened up their camp facility this year to provide a Cued Speech Retreat April 17–19, 2009, in East Gull Lake, MN.

The retreat was planned primarily for cueing families to come together in a place where they could share their experiences with one another as well as build family bonds by participating in non-verbal communication activities. The Confidence Learning Center also provided a cabin for transliterators to practice various skills and network with one another.

The families gathered for various indoor and outdoor activities throughout the weekend. During a morning indoor activity session, there was one rule: No talking. No cueing. No signing. Challenges were designed to wrap around the five senses. Children in the room laughed and giggled as they blew cotton balls with straws and stacked cups into towers, hoping they didn't crash to the floor.

During the outdoor communication

activity session, people climbed a tall tree while attached to a harness and swung down from the top. They also could whoosh down a long slide, pet animals, and enjoy the fresh air. Along paths was a bit of snow, proving that spring was not yet in full swing.



Cue Camp Confidence (courtesy of Terry Flower)

During one part of the retreat, while gathered to discuss parenting and school-related issues, the children visited a nature room and learned about snakes from Emily Smith-Lundberg, the camp director. They even had the opportunity to see the snake eat a dead

mouse! As you might imagine, the children were glued to the scene.

This retreat served as a place for families to meet others who have experience using Cued Speech as well as those who have never used it before. Jessica Miguel came to the retreat with her family to learn more about Cued Speech. She was especially happy to see the opportunity for her children to interact with others. She said; "My son is playing with kids his own age. I haven't seen him this happy in years!"

Camp Confidence Learning Center and the Cued Speech Association of Minnesota are working together to provide this Cued Speech Retreat again in Spring 2010. For additional information, please visit the CSAM web site at www.cuedspeechminnesota.org or contact Sarah Druley at info@cuedspeechminnesota.org.

Editor's Note: Sarah Druley is now the new president of Cued Speech Association of Minnesota.

Tate Tullier, continued from page 5 of the week". I find TOO many deaf individuals fall through the cracks of being pressured into being someone who needs to fit into the norm of their surroundings and when that happens, too many children lose their identity and "work" on becoming someone that their parents feel is better for them. I am so proud of my parents for letting me be a kid, just a kid. They never made me feel out of place for being deaf and I see many parents nowadays doing the opposite. This is a tad bit off the question you asked me, but I think it's very important for parents of deaf children to view my journey as a positive one because I had a great one throughout all the bad and good—because I was comfortable in my own skin as a DEAF kid!

OC: Looking back on your journey, is there anything you would change?

TT: I can think of so many things I'd change, but then I wouldn't be where I am nowadays so, no.

OC: Finally, any advice to give to other deaf cuers?

TT: My advice to other deaf cuers is to just make sure you know yourself and don't let others tell you what would be best for you to fit in because I know the majority of us do have hearing parents and usually don't even associate with signers or the ASL deaf community. That itself is a huge thing I missed out on so I definitely recommend you to open up and get involved with them regardless of what your parents/teachers may think of it. Whatever YOU deem important in life, is what you should

follow but for me—that is definitely my advice because it will help you grow as a person even more when you surround yourself with peers who are similar to you physically (in our case, being deaf).

Editor's note:

Tate Tullier's photography web site is located at <http://www.tatetullier.com>. His blog is located at <http://tatephoto.wordpress.com/> (provided with permission by the interviewee)

For additional information about the Dream Bigger campaign: <http://www.purple.us/Pages/dreambigger.php>.

Remembering Anand Navkal

by Preeti and Manish Kochar

Editor's Note: Anand Navkal, an advocate for Cued Speech in his native country of India, passed away in May. The following letter was written by parents of a deaf cuer, who have been cueing advocates both in Maryland and in India. This letter has not been edited.

On May 6, we received terrible news from Hema Navkal. Her husband, Anand had passed away, on the 1st of May after suffering from lymphoma for 8 days. His loss was a great personal loss to us and a great loss to the cause of deaf children in India.

Anand's pragmatism and analytical view of Cued Speech reminded us in many ways of Dr. Cornett. While he was an engineer by training and profession he immediately understood the benefits that Cued Speech could bring to India's deaf population. He first heard about Cued Speech at the AG Bell convention when he and Hema were visiting their sons and grandchildren in the US a few years ago (Hema is a teacher of poor deaf children in India, many whose parents could not afford to send them to school, let alone afford a cochlear implant). Anand, an engineer by profession, was interested in helping his wife's students and other deaf children.

Within a few weeks of hearing about CS, Hema and Anand attended Cue camp in Maine. After attending camp, the Navkals wanted to find out about cueing in Hindi and Marathi since both

languages are used in Mumbai and Pune where the Navkals lived, and where Hema taught deaf children. Since we cue in Hindi to our daughter Prachi, they contacted us and Preeti had a long talk with Anand on the phone. Anand studied the cue chart that Dr Cornett had created for these languages. We had created an alternative chart and Anand explained to me that he thought Cornett's original chart was more consistent with English and he wanted to use it after making some adjustments to the system. Their daughter, an artist made up new charts for hand shapes, so the whole family was involved in Cued Speech!

When we last visited India in December, 2005, the Navkals invited us to their home in Pune and also introduced us to Rani Parasnis, who

runs the Red Cross Deaf School. They arranged for us to demonstrate how CS works (in English) and several teachers of the deaf and some parents attended. A year and a half ago, the Navkals taught the system to deaf education professionals and teachers in India.

What made Anand a hero to us is his drive and motivation to teach deaf educators in India about CS and what CS could do for their deaf children. We are thankful to Anand for his dedication to the helping deaf children through Cued Speech. We have lost a wonderful friend and an exemplary advocate for Cued Speech. I know that Hema will continue the work that she started together with Anand and now more than ever she needs the help and support of the Cued Speech community.



*L to R, Hema Navkal, Anand Navkal, Prachi Kochar, and Preeti Kochar
(courtesy of Preeti Kochar)*

For available Cued Speech charts in other foreign languages visit www.cuedspeech.org

Arabic
British English
Finnish
Hausa

Idoma
Marathi
Modern Hebrew
Punjabi

Somali
Spanish
Urdu
Yoroba Nigerian

Harper's Corner

by Josh Libby

It is mind-blowing how much difference half a year makes in regards to the development and growth of a child. Harper is four and a half years old and she has made great strides since the last edition of *Harper's Corner*. She is busy with her summertime schedule at the beach, with summer schooling, and has started to cue new words including "shell," "ocean," and "wave"!

We had Harper's IEP meeting this past March. The IEP team included her teacher, her occupational, physical and speech therapists, and my wife and me. Maisie and I approached this meeting expecting to encounter resistance to our request that Cued Speech be implemented in her speech therapy sessions. Each team member spoke and recounted their goals from the last

IEP and how Harper had performed. Then they discussed their future goals and objectives to be met. The speech therapist spoke last and summarized about how Harper was beginning to formulate more complex sentences, but had difficulty making some speech sounds.

I made it known that Maisie and I wanted Harper to start using Cued Speech in her speech sessions. The speech therapist probably had anticipated this, and she stated almost immediately that she was in agreement and that she wanted to cue with Harper. However we were shocked when the therapist stated that Harper had already started cueing in previous sessions! Whenever Harper had difficulty repeating a sound, she would mimic a

cue herself and then proceed to make the sound. Harper had in effect been her own advocate for cueing and had convinced the therapist that she was able to formulate the sounds if she cued them. Talk about self-implementation! We barely did anything and, as a result of our little advocate, Cued Speech is a formal part of her IEP.

I feel we were extremely fortunate; however, I am dismayed by the experiences of other families across the country who are having trouble with their own IEP meetings. As an advocate for the NCSA, I have learned about several families in which the parents were having difficulty convincing the schools to implement Cued Speech into their child's IEP. Sometimes special education teams are reticent to

Harper's Corner, continued on page 13

2009 - 2010 NCSA Calendar of Events

September 2009

Cued Speech: Beyond the Basics
(9/4 - 9/5)
Vacaville, California

Hi I Cue! - Alberta Cued English (ACE)
(9/11 - 9/13)
Edmonton, Alberta, Canada

October 2009

Basic Instructor Workshop (10/23 - 10/24)
NCSA Board Meeting (10/23 - 10/25)
Instructor Certification Exam (10/25)
Eastland Park Hotel, Portland, Maine

December 2009

Cued Speech: Beyond the Basics
(12/4 - 12/5)
Vacaville, California

April 2010

Basic Instructor Workshop (4/9 - 4/10)
NCSA Board Meeting (4/9 - 4/11)
Instructor Certification Exam (4/11)
Salt Lake City, Utah

October 2010

Basic Instructor Workshop (10/22 - 10/23)
NCSA Board Meeting (10/22 - 10/24)
Instructor Certification Exam (10/24)
Rochester, New York

Hannah Mann, continued from page 1

I thought she would be an outstanding candidate because she advocates for what she needs. Not only did she assist our program with finding Cued Speech transliterators, she also volunteered her time on several panels discussing her experiences about using Cued Speech.”

As Franklin pointed out, Hannah has made strides to educate the Signing Student Association at UWM about Cued Speech by demonstrating cues and participating in a deaf panel to talk about her experiences with Cued Speech. In addition to educating her college community and signing community about Cued Speech, Hannah recognizes the importance of educating herself about the Deaf signing community; she plans to become more involved with the Deaf community by improving her signing skills and educating herself about Deaf culture. “I’m actually taking a Deaf history class next semester. I’m also hoping to hang out with more Deaf people and get to know them better.”

She emphasized that the most important quality a role model for deaf cuers should possess is open-mindedness. “I’d say the most important thing for a role model is to be open-minded, to avoid demonizing or idealizing any one side or agenda, and to be especially sensitive to the issues that parents of a deaf child will face. There’s no one-size-fits-all approach...I believe a deaf cuer role model should demonstrate that ASL [with the] Deaf culture and Cued Speech are not mutually exclusive, and that Cued Speech can’t and won’t replace ASL. The last thing we need to do is alienate the Deaf Community.”

Of her future plans to contribute to her community, Hannah says that she is still in the process of brainstorming. “To be honest, I don’t have any specific plans. I’m kind of playing it by ear...I’ve talked with one of my transliterators about offering a brief workshop to teach Cued Speech to whoever is interested. Perhaps I can collaborate with my

university’s Signing Student Association to set up something. I think a one-credit class teaching Cued Speech for the ITP students, taught by my two most experienced transliterators, would be a good idea, but I’m not sure who we would have to go to in order to set it up. There are a lot of people I would still need to talk to.”

Franklin said that Hannah possesses a number of powerful qualities that made her an outstanding candidate for the scholarship award. “From the first day I met her, she clearly had the ambition and determination to make her accommodation needs known while making others understand and feel at ease with working with a hard of hearing student. She is a brilliant young lady.”

Hannah’s former high school teacher and Cued Speech transliterator Emily Gonzales, who also wrote a recommendation for her scholarship application, believes Hannah is an exceptional, unique character with a depth of intellect uncommon for her age. “Her drive enables her to explore and grasp complicated material. She is then able to express these ideas through her writing and art.”

Hannah says that her primary goal is to advocate for and generate interest in Cued Speech. Of UWM, she said: “There isn’t much of a Cued Speech community here... I think it’s still too early for a Cued Speech community here because there are so few cuers here. For now, I think the best I can do is to continue to answer any questions about Cued Speech, [and] help generate more interest [and] exposure in it.”

Want to follow the NCSA
on Facebook and Twitter?

Look up Cued Speech!

@CuedSpeech

Kris Wilson, continued from page 1

thesis, and completed a teaching credential while raising two children with her husband, Dan Wilson. When Carol Shuler retired from teaching special education in Greenville, CA, Kris was selected as her replacement. She kept using Cued Speech with Carol’s former student, who by then was well-integrated into her school and community.

After teaching special education for several years, Kris branched out and started a private practice. In 1997, after both of her children left for college, she and her husband Dan moved to Eugene, OR. In Eugene, Kris worked and taught early education. She also loved to work with her husband in his construction business; together they rebuilt a home that had been destroyed by a fire, renovated a historic “Depot House” that was about to fall down, as well as took on other endeavors that some argued were fit only for a bulldozer. After their “Depot House” was restored and entered on the National Register of Historic Places, Kris opened an educational therapy practice upstairs while taking shifts at the front counter of her son’s café downstairs. She also remained involved in her husband’s construction business. While chatting with customers in the café, and representing all three family businesses at town organizations, she became a community fixture in the Eugene suburb of Coburg. Her ability to spread enthusiasm lives on in the *Coburg Quilt Show*, and in her husband’s working as the town’s volunteer Santa: two events to which the residents and small businesses in Coburg look forward every year.

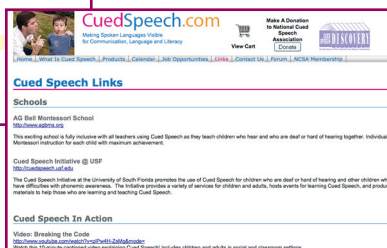
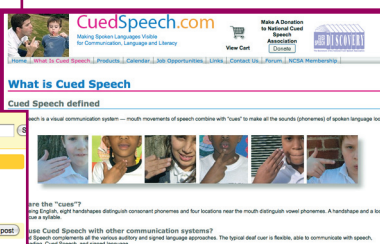
Even greater than her hope for crumbling buildings, small business, and small towns, was her conviction that all children can learn if properly supported. As Dan explains, “She didn’t think much of the labels attached to ‘different learners.’ She got so excited when she found the key to unlock a

Kris Wilson, continued on page 13

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Kris Wilson, continued from page 12

kiddo's learning ability. She saw many more ways to come up with the answer besides what was in the book."

Kris recognized Cued Speech as a tool that could help children with all varieties of language delays, whether or not they were hearing impaired. Her fascination with early language development expanded outside her private practice in 2002, when she began to teach online courses. Her courses, targeted for parents and caregivers, emphasized that language skills did not come from expensive systems or fancy games, and especially not from flash cards or drills. Instead she encouraged parents to follow their instincts, using simple play and dialogue to encourage language skills. By 2006, she was teaching classes for two age groups and writing a course for a third.

Kris passed away suddenly in July 2006, from a rare cancer that she

did not know she had. One thing she wanted from life was that no prolonged debilitations keep her from full engagement in all that was important to her; our family finds some comfort in that she was seriously ill for about one day. Her active, rich, varied life and her entrepreneurial spirit are represented by the Cue Camp Scholarship; she felt that cueing could remove boundaries other methods could not, presenting the most opportunities for a person to have a rich life and a vibrant career. She is survived by many generations of family, friends, mentors and students for whom her memory is a blessing, and her legacy a challenge to live a life of passion and advocacy.

**For more information on
the Kris Wilson Cue Camp
Scholarship visit
www.cuedspeech.org**

Harper's Corner, continued from page 11

recognize, much less implement, Cued Speech. These families approached the NCSA and depending on the situation, whether it was school politics, budgetary, or both, we could assist them by having experienced parents and board members help out. In other cases, we simply provided support and written documentation, which helped attain satisfactory results.

The bottom line is this: Cued Speech is a protected, mind you, federally protected, mode of communication. No public school district can reasonably deny Cued Speech to any child who has an established need under the guidelines of IDEA. The NCSA can be a wonderful resource of support and we will do our best to provide advocacy should you have a need to educate an IEP team on why this system is so crucial to your child's access to spoken language and literacy.

Fund\$ for Cueing

by Maria Gildea

I. Current Fundraising Position

Fundraising plays an important role in the ability of a nonprofit organization to carry out its mission and goals successfully. We are very grateful for our membership's financial support. However, the state of the economy is taking a toll on us. **While donations and other sources of revenue are down dramatically (32%), requests for additional services are up!**

We are raising money to:

- increase Cue Camp attendance and family camp scholarships
- continue to spread the news about the benefits of Cued Speech by sending out information packets and DVDs to interested parties
- display information at booths at conferences across the country at various times throughout the year.

Will you consider sending in a donation today to help cover the costs associated with meeting the current needs of our current and future membership? WE NEED YOUR HELP TODAY!

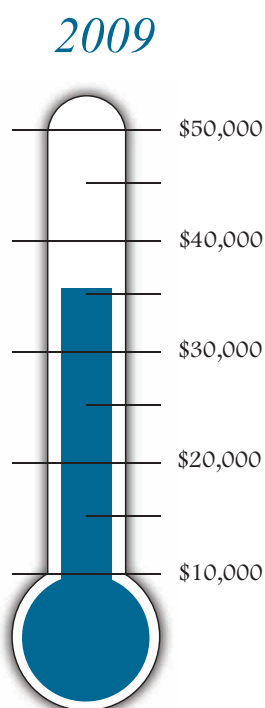
II. Current Fundraising Programs

Hearing Aid Recycling Program – Please send in all your used and unused hearing aids to help raise money for our cause! By participating in this program, you are helping us raise money (the salvage value of the hearing aids), and giving the gift of hearing to a child whose parents cannot afford the cost of hearing aids. This gift requires no outlay of cost – only that which is associated with mailing. Please send your used/unused aids in a padded envelope to:

NCSA Hearing-Aid Recycling Program,
P. O. Box 62, Oakton, VA 22124

You can ask your audiologist to do the same!

Advertising in On Cue and www.cuedspeech.org – NCSA's "Advertising Information & Rates" package has been updated and adjusted to coincide with our current marketing and economic environment. Although we have contacted numerous organizations associated with deaf products and/or services regarding their interest in advertising in *On Cue* and/or *www.cuedspeech.org*, we would appreciate any suggestion from you to increase our advertisement income.



DCLP Read-a-thon/Deaf Awareness Project (September 2009) –

We are working with NCSA regional representatives to coordinate a Read-a-thon for schools that have deaf cueing students (grades 1-12). Students in participating schools will be able to raise money for the NCSA by asking sponsors (family and friends) to pay a certain dollar amount for each book read during the month of October. Be sure to go to www.literacycounts.org for more information on the Read-a-thon.

"Never doubt that a small group of thoughtful committed citizens can change the world. Indeed, it's the only thing that ever has." –Winston Churchill

Help us change the world for deaf children with a donation to the NCSA, 5619 McLean Drive, Bethesda, MD, 20814. Thank you!

Buy and sell on eBay with the proceeds benefiting the Deaf Children's Literacy Project (DCLP)! The NCSA has successfully registered the DCLP with MissionFish, the organization responsible for managing eBay's Giving Works charity portal. You, our members, will be able to buy and sell goods on eBay with the proceeds benefiting the NCSA/DCLP! Register today and start supporting the National Cued Speech Association through MissionFish!



CFC # 12036

Make a donation to the NCSA's Deaf Children's Literacy Project through the Combined Federal Campaign today!

Inaugural “Give Literacy a Hand” Read-a-thon

by Maria Gildea

The last week of September is typically celebrated nationally as Deaf Awareness Week. During this time, issues and celebrations of deafness are brought into the national spotlight. To honor this recognition of deaf-related issues, the National Cued Speech Association, through its Deaf Children's Literacy Project (DCLP), is sponsoring a nationwide “Give Literacy a Hand” Read-a-thon. Our goal with this Read-a-thon is to showcase the issue of literacy and deaf children. After a celebratory kickoff during Deaf Awareness Week, the Read-a-thon will take place throughout October.

Through this Read-a-thon, we hope to actively reach out to populations never before accessible to us, and to help communities realize that literacy is an issue with the deaf. We hope this project will help foster progressive growth to help not only deaf children attain literacy, but to help raise the standards of America's youth as a whole.

The 2009 Give Literacy a Hand Read-a-thon is our inaugural Read-a-thon and

will serve as the model for our future annual Read-a-thons.

We have established a web site for this Read-a-thon, www.literacycounts.org, which includes all the information that will allow schools and students to take full advantage of this program.

The goals of this Read-a-thon are to:

- *Raise awareness about literacy, deafness and Cued Speech*
- *Support our children who cue and their school systems by providing them with a mutually beneficial Read-a-thon program*
- *Develop new partnerships with corporations, influential persons, authors, and other nonprofit organizations and the public at-large*
- *Establish another public relations venue/forum for showcasing our mission of supporting effective communication, language development and literacy through the use of Cued Speech*

This Read-a-thon will take place in schools across the country, and be open to students from preschool through 8th grade. These schools may or may not have students using Cued Speech; the idea is to promote reading amongst all children, while helping raise awareness for issues pertaining to deafness and literacy.

Each student will be encouraged to secure sponsors -- parents, relatives, and neighbors -- who will pledge money per minute or choose to donate a certain sum as a one-time pledge. The funds raised will benefit both the student's school or program and the NCSA. These Read-a-thon donations will provide us with the funds necessary to run the next Read-a-thon; we hope that the program will expand each year, helping to raise even more awareness about literacy, deafness and Cued Speech.

This inaugural Read-a-thon is possible through funding from an anonymous donor, as well as corporate and community donations.



Deaf Children's
Literacy Project

Endorsing Authors and Sponsors

Laura Numeroff • Jean Craighead George

Henry Kisor • J. Parrish Lewis

www.literacycounts.org



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On Cue

On Cue, the newsletter of the National Cued Speech Association, is published three times a year; e-mail updates to members are more frequent. Letters to the Editor must include contact information of the author. The Editor reserves the right to select those letters to be published and to edit for length and language. News, calendar items, letters, classified ads, and photos are needed! Electronic transmission of all materials is preferred. Electronic photos must be high-resolution at 300 dpi.

Send to Aaron Rose, editor, at oncue@cuedspeech.org or mail hard copy to:

On Cue

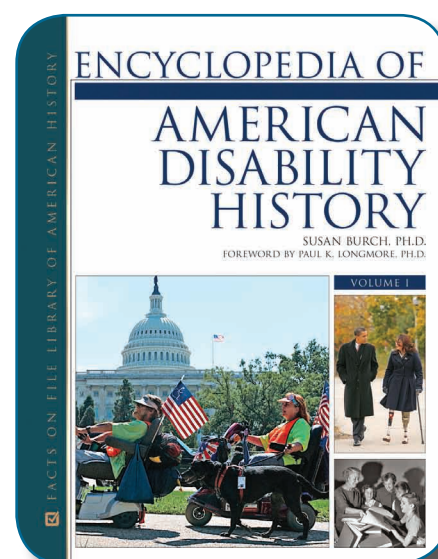
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Cued Speech Entry in Encyclopedia

The Encyclopedia of American Disability History will be published later this summer (August/September). This three-volume encyclopedia encompasses over 750 entries by more than 350 contributors, including an entry on Cued Speech. Gene Mirus, Ph.D., and Hilary Franklin, M.A., collaborated to write the entry about Cued Speech.

Dr. Mirus is an assistant professor in the Deaf Studies department at Gallaudet University. He specializes in sociolinguistics and has taken an interest in Cued Speech. The title of his dissertation is "On the Linguistic Repertoire of Deaf Cuers."

Hilary Franklin is a native deaf cuer with a master's degree in teaching American Sign Language as a Foreign Language. She is also a certified instructor of Cued Speech, and serves of the Board of Directors of the NCSA. She currently works at the American



Institutes for Research in Washington, DC.

Facts on File is publishing the the Encyclopedia of American Disability History. To read a description of the encyclopedia or to reserve your copy, please visit their web site: <http://factsonfile.infobasepublishing.com/Default.asp>.



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