



How Does a Disabled Texan Participate in the Election Process?

This year, 1984, is important politically to many Texans. In addition to this year being a Presidential election year, Texans will be electing a new United States Senator, all U.S. Representative slots, all state representative slots, many state senate slots as well as many other statewide political and judicial posts. The people who will fill these positions are the people who will be shaping the laws which will govern us in the immediate future.

There are more than one million disabled Texans of voting age. If even a third of these individuals participated in the political process, disabled Texans could have a considerable impact on the outcome of the various elections and on the selection of the presidential candidates in both major parties.

Texas makes it extremely easy for disabled citizens to register and vote. To register, one must fill out a voter registration card which can be found at many banks, supermarkets, post offices and your local county courthouse. If one is unable to fill out the card, one may have a friend fill it out. One may sign it with the usual signature (i.e. initials for some people). If one marks it with an X, have a friend sign the witness space. Finally, if one cannot mark an X, leave the signature line blank and have a friend sign the witness line.

On May 5, 1984, the Democratic and Republican parties will hold their primaries to choose candidates for the November general election. There are several ways that a disabled citizen can vote in this and other such elections. The first method is absentee voting which must be done in person at the county courthouse or absentee voting station from twenty to four days before the day of the election.

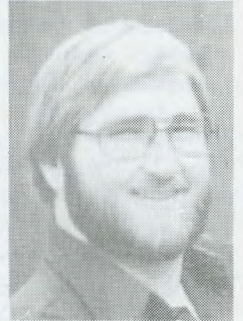
Secondly, disabled individuals may absentee vote by mail by sending in a "Ballot by Mail Application" no earlier than 60 days prior to the election. One may con-

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**VOTE
ELECTION '84**

by Julie Oliver

President's Column



Marshall Mitchell

If the January Board meeting is any indication of things to come, 1984 will be an extremely busy year for C.T.D. I am glad that the Texas legislature is not in session this year!

Many new projects were initiated during the January Board meeting which will benefit many disabled Texans. It is a joy to work with so many talented, dedicated individuals on the Board who are striving to improve the quality of life for all disabled Texans. However, I am convinced of one thing—the C.T.D. Board CANNOT do all that is needed on its own. For every Board member there are literally hundreds of dedicated C.T.D. members whose abilities can be used in the disability movement. I will be calling on YOU who are active and successful at the local level to be equally active at the state level.

The priority of the Coalition in 1984 is the "Disabled but Able to Vote" campaign. It is impossible for me to stress strongly enough how important this campaign is. For example, in the 1982 Governor's race, Mark White was elected by slightly over 1.6 million votes which seems like a lot of votes. However, there is an estimated 1.7 million disabled Texans. Hence, it is obvious that if every disabled Texan registered to vote and then actually voted, we could potentially elect a governor! We MUST begin to tap this vast source of power and become a serious political reality to the candidates as are other minority groups!

The state coordinators for the "Disabled but Able to Vote" campaign are Tom Kimbell and Ann Lemke from El Paso. They are developing a strong network of local coordinators throughout the state in an effort to make it an effective, successful campaign. For more details about the "Disabled but Able to Vote" campaign, see the related article in this issue.

As many of you already know, Linda Wren, C.T.D.'s VISTA Supervisor and Executive Director, has left the Coalition of Texans with Disabilities on April 1st. Linda has been a wonderful asset to C.T.D., and we are sad that she has moved to Dallas. We wish her luck and say a heart-felt THANK-YOU! for all her efforts. There is one positive aspect, however, and that is that C.T.D. has gained a valuable member in the Dallas area.

I would also like to express my appreciation to Max Arrell and the Texas Rehabilitation Commission for the

—continued on page 2.

LEGISLATIVE UPDATE

Senate Sub-Committee Hearing on S.2053

The first Congressional hearing on S. 2053, the "Community and Family Living Amendments of 1983" was held on February 27, 1984, before the Senate Finance Committee's Sub-Committee on Health, chaired by Senator David Durenberger (Republican, Maine). This first hearing was intended to focus primarily on the concept embodied in S. 2053, i.e., a statement-of-the-art hearing rather than an in-depth discussion of the details of S. 2053. The Sub-Committee heard from parents with disabled children, disabled persons themselves, program and cost-benefit "experts" as well as state government officials.

Briefly, the S. 2053 bill has been designed to shift Medicaid dollars from long-term institutions to community-based residential and daytime programs that serve non-elderly persons with developmental disabilities. This bill proposes to phase out Medicaid support for residential facilities serving more than ten severely disabled persons. Instead the funds would be used to make a variety of home and community-based services available to developmentally disabled people.

It is important to remember that the February hearing is the first of many hearings Congress will be having on the bill. Advocates have likened the S. 2053 Bill to the P.L. 94-142, the Education for All Handicapped Children Act, which took approximately four years to get through Congress. Therefore, Congress needs much input from informed supporters and opponents of the bill to make it a workable, viable piece of legislation enhancing the lives of severely disabled persons.

by Judy Wingard-Westbrook



Handicapped Students May Be Hurt

by Judy Wingard-Westbrook

A bill (H.R. 4164) drafted by the American Vocational Association (AVA) which is expected to be the bill the House Education and Labor Committee considers, poses major problems for continued access to vocational education programs by handicapped youth. As it is currently drafted, H.R. 4164 would do the following:

1. Abolish the ten percent set-aside for the handicapped in the Basic State Grant Program.
2. Substantially weaken the requirement in current law that such programs be funded by a 50-50 match between Federal and state and local government sources.
3. Delete the excess cost provision on the utilization of Federal money for vocational education for the handicapped.
4. Establish a new program, separate from the Basic State Grant Program, which would lump the handicapped with other at-risk groups such as those with limited English speaking proficiency, economically disadvantaged and sexual stereotypes. This program would require a new appropriation, again separate from the Basic Vocational State Grant appropriation.

Vocational education advocates for handicapped youth are communicating their strong support to the House Education and Labor Committee to amend H.R. 4164 by restoring the handicapped set-aside in Vocational Education State Grant program and expanding the set-aside from ten percent to fifteen percent and restoring the 50-50 matching and excess provisions in the current law.

STRONG REHABILITATION ACT PASSED by Judy Wingard-Westbrook

Congress, in a Joint House-Senate Conference passed a bill which President Reagan signed, providing a strong statutory base and adequate authorizations for programs under the Rehabilitation Act. This bill will increase authorizations for vocational rehabilitation as well as establish a nationwide network for the Client Assistance Program in each state. Finally, but not least, the independent living monies for independent living centers will continue for another three years.

PRESIDENT'S COLUMN cont. from pg. 1.
hospitality shown the Board as it met in the T.R.C. central office for its January meeting. Accommodations could not have been better! Thanks!

As the year passes and Spring is upon us, let us all plan to work diligently for the success of C.T.D.'s worthwhile projects. You will be hearing from me soon!

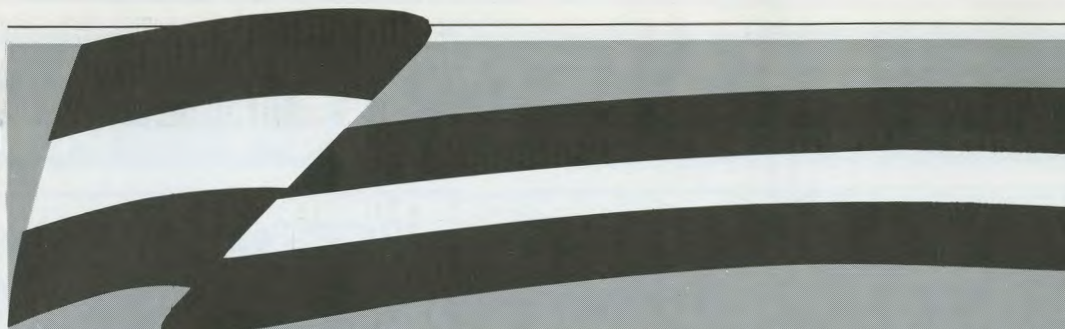
CTD's Editor's Note:

The CTD newsletter is edited and published quarterly by the Coalition of Texans with Disabilities, a state-wide cross disability consumer group. Any member who wishes to submit future articles for publication should send them to:

Judy Wingard-Westbrook, Co-Editor ARCIL
Steve Currier, Co-Editor 2818 San Gabriel
Austin, Texas 78705

The following are publication dates and deadlines for submitting articles:

April 15th newsletter February 24, 1984
July 15th newsletter May 25, 1984
October 15th newsletter August 24, 1984



504

CIVIL RIGHTS FOR ALL DISABLED PEOPLE

Section 504: Under Attack Again

by Julie Oliver

The Department of Justice (DOJ) has issued proposed Section 504 regulations for its programs and activities which are far weaker than those 504 regulations already in existence for recipients of federal financial assistance. It is expected that the rest of the federal agencies will follow suit and publish basically identical regulations governing their specific programs. If these regulations are adopted by the Justice Department and other federal agencies it will mean that the federal government will be held to a lower standard than recipients of federal assistance. It would seem that the federal government should be held to at least as high a standard.

The primary complaint is the language contained in section 39.150 regarding Program accessibility. After requiring program accessibility, the DOJ takes away what it gives by saying that it "does not require the agency to take any action that it can demonstrate would result in a fundamental alteration in the nature of a program or activity or in undue financial and administrative burdens."

What constitutes "undue burden" is left to the agency's discretion.

The Justice Department claims that this change is in response to a Supreme Court case concerning section 504, *Davis vs. Southeastern Community College*, decided in June, 1979. Yet the *Davis* case dealt with the qualifications of a deaf student for the school's nursing program, not program accessibility, and is therefore clearly

distinguishable. Further, the Justice Department issued its recipient regulations in 1980, one year after the *Davis* case (and before the current administration). In those regulations, DOJ found no need for any undue burden language or other changes as a result of the *Davis* case.

The proposed regulations only apply to federal agency's activities, not to programs receiving money from the federal government. Those regulations have been left intact. It was only last March that the disabled community won a victory and dissuaded, with considerable public outcry, the current administration from weakening the regulations for recipients by including this undue burden exception. At that time, Vice-President George Bush assured disabled advocates that the "commitment to equal opportunity for disabled citizens to achieve their full potential as independent, productive citizens is fully shared by this Administration and has the strong personal support of both the President and me."

It was less than a month later that the Justice Department, at the direction of the Administration, introduced prototype regulations identical to these just published by DOJ for use by all federal agencies in writing their 504 regulations.

Comments to these regulations were being accepted until April 16, 1984. If you want more information about the results these comments had on the final outcome of DOJ's proposed Section 504 regulations, contact the C.T.D. Central Office.

ELECTION PROCESS cont. from pg. 1.

tact his or her county courthouse for a "Ballot by Mail Application." A doctor's certificate is no longer required in order to vote by mail. The completed ballot must be mailed to the County Clerk's office during the period of twenty to four days before the day of the election.

Finally, disabled citizens may vote at the polling place on election day. If the polling place is not accessible, one may "curb side vote." In this process, two election officials will bring the ballot to the disabled individual at the curb if necessary. One should be cautious about this process because if the polling place uses the Shoup Voting Machines (booths with a lever to pull to close curtains and levers to pull to make the vote count), the "curb side vote" cannot be accomplished. Instead one should go to the absentee voting station on election day between 7:00 a.m. and 2:00 p.m. One might also call the

County Courthouse in advance to find out the location of the voting station and if it is accessible.

If one needs assistance in reading or marking the ballot, one may ask a friend or ask two election officials to help. If the election officials are unaware of these rules ask that they look in the election handbook under the section entitled "Rendering Assistance to the Voter."

The precinct conventions are another important aspect of the political process. After the polls close on May 5th at 7:15 p.m., each political party will hold a convention in each precinct. They are usually held at the polling places. This precinct convention is the voter's right to express his/her preference for that party's nominee for President. Delegates are selected as supporting various candidates or as uncommitted in proportion to the amount of support each candidate has at the con-

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NEWS FROM ARO

E-Z-J Ranch Offered to Youngsters

by Bob Kafka

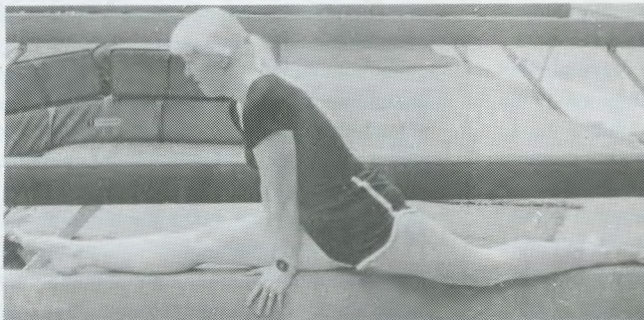
The Southwest Wheelchair Athletic Association (SWAA) and Paraplegics on Individual Nature Trips (POINT) are joining together to offer a four-day outdoor experience on July 4-8, 1984, to ten young people between ages 10-16.

Nestled in the majestic tall pines of Nacogdoches (oldest city in Texas), E-Z-J Ranch is located on 99 acres with a beautiful two-acre catfish-stocked lake, a full length swimming pool and available camping facilities. Peer supervisors will join the youngsters in activities that will include a 4th of July fireworks display, swimming, camping, fishing, horseback riding, map reading, metal detection, environmental instruction, and many other outdoor skill development events.

No fee will be charged to the participants. Medical supervision and adult peer supervisors will be on the ranch site at all times. For more information about the program and/or obtaining an application, write or call the following:

SWAA

P.O. Box 30807/Houston, Texas 77025/(713) 795-4252



Aloha Short demonstrates her skills on the balance beam

Blind Athlete Makes International Competition

by Carli Scales

Dressed in a maroon warm-up suit, Aloha Short makes gymnastics seem easy. She has proven that being legally blind is no handicap.

Aloha has been chosen to participate in the Blind Olympic International competition in Nassau, New York on June 16-30, 1984. She is one of approximately 50 participants from the United States and the only gymnast from Texas.

A student at Amarillo College, Aloha is majoring in physical education and serves as the secretary of the Peoples Association for Life Services (PALS) and as a member of the student organization at Amarillo College.

When chosen to be the representative from Texas in the Blind Olympic International competition, she said, "I feel it is a real honor to be chosen. I had the highest all around scores from last year's nationals and worked hard to be a good gymnast." In the past, she has won 17 gold medals, 3 silver, 2 bronze and 21 ribbons in the National competition.

In the events she will be competing on the uneven parallel bars, the balance beam, vaulting and floor exercises.

A special fund has been established to help send Aloha to the international competition. Anyone interested in donating to the fund can send their checks to the following address:

The Aloha Short Disabled Olympic Fund

Post Office Box 231/Amarillo, Texas 79187/ATTN: Mail Teller

SWCID-Fest on May

12-13, 1984 by Larry Evans

The Southwest Collegiate Institute for the Deaf (SWCID) will sponsor its first annual SWCID-Fest in Big Spring on May 12-13, 1984. Convocation and commencement exercises for SWCID and Howard College graduates will initiate the fun-filled weekend on May 11th.

On Saturday at dawn, a run consisting of a 6.2 mile course or a two mile course (depending on the jogger's or walker's choice) will take place. T-shirts will be given to the first 300 participants entering the race and trophies will be awarded to the winners in various age categories. During the afternoon, participants may play softball or golf in a nearby city park.

BBQ will be prepared by a well-known Austin BBQ chef who is deaf, Edwin Easley. Students from SWCID will also be performing a talent show and a dance in the evening hours of Saturday. In addition arrangements are being made to have the captioned version of the movie "The Big Chill" shown at the local theatre during SWCID-Fest.

With SWCID-Fest, the college administrators hope to make SWCID more familiar to more individuals across the state. Therefore, everyone is invited to attend the first SWCID-Fest. For additional information, call or write the following:

**Mrs Linda Woodley, Director
Community Relations**

Howard College

1001 Birdwell Lane

Big Spring, Texas 79720

Voice/TDD (915) 267-6311

Larry Evans

SWCID

Avenue C

Big Spring, Texas 79720.

(TDD) (915) 267-2511

1984 CALENDAR OF SPORTS DATES

MAY 22-26
28th NATIONAL WHEELCHAIR GAMES
JOHNSON CITY, TENNESSEE

MAY 24-28
1st WHEELCHAIR RACQUETBALL CHAMPIONSHIPS

JUNE 16-30
INTERNATIONAL GAMES FOR THE DISABLED

ND THE STATE

TACLD Issues Call for Paper

by Judy Wingard-Westbrook

The Texas Association for Children and Adults with Learning Disabilities (TACLD) is issuing a call for papers and/or presentations on any topic related to learning disabilities for its 20th Annual TACLD Conference on October 3-5, 1984, at the McAllen Civic Center in McAllen, Texas. This call will provide an opportunity for professionals and individuals interested in the learning disabled field to participate in the Conference program.

The deadline for submitting proposals for papers and/or presentations is June 1, 1984; and should be submitted to Margaret N. Carr, 1984 TACLD Conference Program Chairperson, 4304 Marys Creek Drive, Fort Worth, TX 76116. Those individuals selected to give papers and/or presentations will be notified by July 1, 1984.

For additional information about the call or the TACLD Conference in McAllen, Contact TACLD, 1011 West 31st Street, Austin, TX 78705, (512) 458-8234; or the 1984 TACLD Conference Program Chairperson, Margaret N. Carr at the above address for submitting proposals.



TGCDP Barbara Jordan Communications Awards

by Steve Currier

At the second annual Barbara Jordan Communications Awards Conference to be held in Austin in June, 1984, the Texas Governor's Committee for Disabled Persons will recognize outstanding contributions by the Texas public communications media to the elimination of attitudinal, social and physical barriers to equal quality of life opportunities for disabled persons.

The Conference will be a one day event with the addition this year of workshops and seminars on improving communications about disabled persons. Awards will be made in the following categories; television, audio/visual, radio, public relations, print, special contributions and employment of disabled media professionals.

If you would like more information about this event, or write:

Texas Governor's Committee for Disabled Persons

118 East Riverside Drive
Austin, Texas 78704

(512) 445-8276 TDD 447-8346

T.H.R.C. Complaint Procedure

by Steve Currier

The Texas Human Rights Commission (T.H.R.C.) was established on September 1, 1983 by the Texas Commission on Human Rights Act. The Commission is charged with the responsibility of receiving, investigating and seeking conciliation of complaints of employment discrimination.

The law covers all employers within the state that have at least 15 employees for each working day in 20 or more calendar weeks in the current or preceding year. This coverage includes labor organizations, employment agencies, the state and its political subdivisions and agencies.

Employers cannot, because of a person's race, color, handicap, religion, sex, national origin, or age (40-70), fail or refuse to hire, discharge, or otherwise discriminate against an individual with respect to compensation or other terms, conditions, or privileges of employment.

A person that wishes to file a complaint with the Commission must do so within 180 days from when they felt a discriminatory act occurred. The Executive Director of the Commission or his/her designee will investigate the complaint to determine if there's reasonable cause to believe a violation has been committed. If the Executive Director finds no reasonable cause, the complaint will be dismissed. If reasonable cause is found, the evidence will be reviewed by a panel of three commissioners. If two Commissioners agree with the Executive Director's findings, the Commission will attempt to eliminate the discrimination through informal methods of conference, conciliation, and persuasion. Such efforts cannot be made public without the consent of all parties. If conciliation efforts fail, the Commission may bring a civil action. The Court may bar future violations and order such additional relief as is appropriate, including hiring, reinstatement, backpay, promotion, membership, admission to an apprenticeship or training program, reporting on compliance court costs, and attorney's fees.

The Commission must notify the complainant if the complaint is dismissed or no action has been taken within 180 days after the complaint was filed. The complainant then has 60 days to bring a civil action. In any event, civil actions are barred after one year following the filing of the complaint.

If you would like additional information about this process or would like to file a charge of discrimination, call or write:

Bill Hale, Executive Director
Texas Commission on Human Rights
P.O. Box 13493, Capitol Station
Austin, Texas 78711
(512) 475-1178

VISTA Update

by Tom Morrison

The Coalition of Texans with Disabilities Board recently requested from its member organizations applications for 15 VISTA slots which will become open April 14th if funding is provided through the ACTION program. A four member review team appointed by the Board evaluated applications from eleven organizations.

According to the review team Chairperson, Tom Morrison, the team approved eight organizations with one VISTA slot per organization and two organizations with two VISTA slots. These ten organizations include the following: *Austin Resource Center for Independent Living; Deaf, Blind, Multi-Handicapped Association of Texas; Education Service Center: Region XX of San Antonio; Houston Center for Independent Living; San Antonio Citizens Concerned about Handicappism; Southwest Center for the Hearing Impaired in San Antonio; Texas Association of the Deaf; West Texas Association for the Handicapped in El Paso; Texas Association for Children and Adults with Learning Disabilities; Southwest Wheelchair Athletic Association; Coalition of Texans with Disabilities Central Office.*

One Organization did not adhere to the VISTA guidelines and was not approved at this time. The organization is being asked to resubmit its application with the understanding that the review team will reconsider and probably approve the final proposal pending availability of additional funding.

With the 15 slots and the six continuing slots, the VISTA program for C.T.D. will total 21 slots. The six slots currently operating will be eligible for renewal in September subject to availability of funding through the ACTION program. For the six slots available in September, the same selection process will be followed. For additional information, contact the C.T.D. Central Office or Tom Morrison.



Linda Wren receives Appreciation Plaque from CTD Board.

CTD Says Good-Bye to The Executive Director

by Bob Kafka

Watch out, J.R.!

An old proverb goes: "He/she who says good-bye, only says hello in a different way. Linda Wren, CTD's VISTA Supervisor, first Executive Director and dedicated independent living supporter, has decided to go back to her roots in the Dallas area.

Ms. Wren began working for the Coalition in August, 1981, when CTD was just beginning to grow and become a leader in the disabled community. Under her dauntless leadership and often under adverse circumstances, Ms. Wren has supervised 30 VISTA Volunteers and orchestrated the growth of CTD so that it now boasts a membership of 57 organizations.

Family commitments and a desire to pursue new challenges have become major factors in Ms. Wren's decision to move back to the Dallas area.

Ms. Wren has served as the State President of Launch and recently served on the Texas Association of Children with Learning Disabilities (TACL D) Board. She has expressed the hope that CTD will continue to grow and she will do everything she can so to help in the Dallas area.

CTD, its member organizations and individual members have much to thank Ms. Wren for and collectively, I am sure, wish her a resounding Good Luck in her future endeavors.

1984 CTD Vote Campaign

by Tom Kimball

At the 1983 Coalition of Texans with Disabilities (C.T.D.) Delegate Assembly a resolution was unanimously passed concerning the registration education and mobilization of disabled voters under the title "Disabled but Able to Vote" Campaign.

The C.T.D. state co-chairpersons for this campaign are Ann Lemke and Tom Kimball. Some of their efforts will include a brochure that will be mailed to all C.T.D. members explaining the voting process for disabled persons in Texas. The brochure will contain information on how to register to vote 30 days ahead of time and how to vote by mail, absentee or at your local precinct.

Another aspect of the "Disabled but Able to Vote" campaign will be to inform C.T.D. members of local and national candidate positions on various issues that concern disabled persons.

For additional information about the C.T.D. Vote Campaign or the voting process, contact:

Tom Kimball/3133 Daisy/El Paso, Texas 79925/(915) 598-6952

Ann Lemke/10533 Saigon/El Paso, Texas 79925/(915) 594-2426

Welcome CTD's New Members

BEXTAR COUNTY MENTAL HEALTH AND MENTAL RETARDATION CENTER

434 South Main Avenue, Suite 400
San Antonio, Texas 78204
Phone: (512) 225-4011
Contact: Gilbert Lozano
Local Associate Member

This group is a community-based health care organization providing comprehensive services to persons in Bexar County having problems related to mental illness, mental retardation, alcohol and drug use and abuse.

UNITED CEREBRAL PALSY ASSOCIATION OF TEXAS

7801 North Lamar, Suite F-9
Austin, Texas 78752
PHONE: (512) 458-8161
Contact: Dianne Bisig,
Executive Director
State Member

The organization is a statewide group providing information and referral to those areas with local affiliates as well as advocates with and for persons who have cerebral palsy. It also provides information and education to the public about cerebral palsy in all aspects of life.

ELECTION PROCESS cont. from pg. 3
vention. These delegates then go to the county convention. This process continues with the state convention and finally the national convention where the

presidential candidate is chosen. To participate in the precinct convention, one must have voted in the primary election. Therefore, one should have his/her voter registration card stamped when one votes. If the polling place is not accessible and an individual needing accessibility features desires to attend the precinct convention, one should call the county party office and urge them to find an accessible site for the precinct convention.

Thus, in conclusion, Texas has taken many steps to make the registration and voting process accessible to disabled persons. In fact, the last legislature passed a law mandating that at least one polling place in a precinct be made accessible by 1988. With our state government making such efforts to include disabled Texans in the election process, it would be a sad thing not to participate and give life to C.T.D.'s slogan: "DISABLED BUT ABLE TO VOTE!"

Join CTD

The Coalition of Texans with Disabilities is a coalition of organizations and individuals committed to cross-disability communication, cooperation, and coordination. The Coalition promotes the social, education, physical, and mental well-being of disabled Texans. The Coalition of Texans with Disabilities brings together people and organizations with similar goals in a united effort to represent all disabled Texans to government, the private sector, and the general public. Membership in the Coalition enables organizations and individuals to enhance their effectiveness in improving the quality of life for Texans with disabilities.

MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

Name _____ (ORGANIZATION OR INDIVIDUAL) _____ Date ____/____/____

Address _____ (STREET ADDRESS OR POST OFFICE BOX) _____

CITY

STATE

ZIP CODE

Name of contact person for organization _____

Membership category applied for:

_____ _____ _____ _____
State Local Individual Associate

Mail application and dues to: CTD

P.O. Box 4709

Austin, Texas 78765

Name of Organization _____

Estimated Membership _____

Estimated percentage of members with disabilities _____

Percentage of Governing Board _____

Does the organization have non-profit status? _____

Is the organization a state organization? _____

If yes, does the organization have chapters in at least two cities? _____

Is the organization a regional and/or local chapter of a state organization? _____

If yes, what organization? _____

If the organization a regional and/or local chapter of a national organization? _____

If yes, what organization? _____

Organizational Purpose (Goals, Objectives, Population Served) _____

FOUR CATEGORIES OF MEMBERSHIP AVAILABLE

State Organization Members are non-profit organizations composed primarily of persons with disabilities and their adherents; have chapters in at least two cities; are not regional chapters of a state organization having membership in CTD. Dues are \$50.00 annually.

Local Organizational Members are non-profit organizations composed primarily of persons with disabilities and their adherents; are not a chapter of a state organization having membership in CTD. Dues are \$25.00 annually.

Associate Members are organizations wishing to support the work of CTD but which do not meet the above qualifications for state or local organizations. Dues are \$25.00 annually for local and \$50.00 annually for state.

Individual Members are persons wishing to support the work of CTD. Dues are \$5.00 annually.

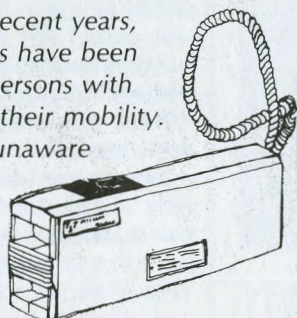
Annual Subscription to CTD newsletter (non-members only) \$5.00.



Technology and You...

by Judy Wingard-Westbrook

Editor's Note: In recent years, several new devices have been developed to aid persons with visual problems in their mobility. Many readers are unaware of these devices. Therefore, the editors have chosen the Mowat Sensor to describe in the column for this issue.



THE MOWAT SENSOR IS A SMALL HAND-HELD DEVICE LIGHT enough to be carried in a pocket or purse when not in use. Designed for use with a long cane or dog guide, the device is handy for locating landmarks, doorways, and specific objects, such as mailboxes, telephone booths, and bus signs.

This device emits a narrow beam of ultrasound (sound too high in pitch to be heard) covering an elliptical area 15° wide and 30° high. If there is an object within the beam, some of the ultrasound is reflected back and picked up by the Sensor, which electronically converts it into impulses that make the whole device gently vibrate. The more rapid the vibration, the nearer the object. There are two ranges—one meter (just over three feet) and four meters (approximately 13 feet).

In addition to its ability to locate specific objects and openings, the Mowat Sensor has some less obvious applications. If an object falls on the floor, the Sensor can be placed flat on the floor and systematically rotated until the object is located. One ingenious use was devised by a receptionist who places the Sensor flat on the desk, pointing away; the Sensor vibrates when someone approaches. It is also useful in work environments where it is dangerous or undesirable for contact to be made with an object, for example in workshops with machinery or in hospitals.

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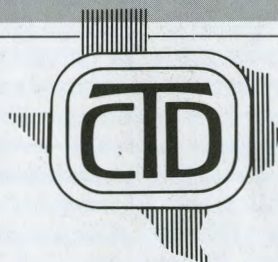
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