



# CAOMS

*California Association of Orientation and Mobility Specialists*



Presents

## “The Road To Creativity”

Friday through Sunday  
November 4–6, 2011

Best Western BEACH RESORT *Monterey*

Mobility: A Basic Freedom

# 2011 Statewide Conference Committee

Sonja Biggs, Chairperson

Joni Bauer

Mary D'Apice

Gina di Grazia

Jason Dugan

Faith Dunham-Sims

David Emanuel

Erin Foley

Rasán Gray

Sarah Hudson

Steven Krauss

Betsy Laflamme

Jessica McDowell

Jaye Shupin

Shannon Stice

Cath Tandler-Valencia

## Northern CAOMS Board of Directors

Betsy Laflamme, President

Gina di Grazia, President Elect

Jaye Shupin, Secretary

Erin Foley, Treasurer

Shannon Stice, Past President

Faith Dunham-Sims, Board Member

Sandra Rosen, Board Member

## Statewide Board of Directors

Joni D. Bauer, President

Lalo Quezada, Secretary

Vincent Fazzi, Sr., Treasurer/Board Member

Lori Cassels, Board Member

Tyler Hilbert, Board Member

Kristin Lucas, Board Member

Thomas Rotunno, Board Member

**Welcome** to the 2011 CAOMS Statewide Conference. The conference committee thanks you for attending and hopes you enjoy the program as well as your stay in beautiful Monterey. This year's esteemed presenters cover a myriad of topics that definitely stimulate creative juices and provoke thought.

The Academy for Certification of Vision Rehabilitation and Education Professionals (ACVREP) has approved all sessions for continuing education hours. Please note the following to insure you receive proper credit:

- Conference sessions have been approved for **up to 9.5 hours** of continuing education.
- **The actual units received for attending the conference are based on the number of HOURS attended.**
- Each individual's hours will be calculated based on information from sign-in sheets that circulate each session. **You must sign in to obtain credit for each session you attend!**
- **Please sign in for only one session per time slot.**
- **Be sure to submit your self-addressed stamped envelope in order to receive your letter of continuing education credit.** This will assist the conference committee with the process of mailing certificates.
- For general information on ACVREP Continuing Education Units or recertification, please go to <http://www.acvrep.org>
- **PLEASE REMEMBER TO FIND AND SIGN YOUR NAME ON THE ACVREP SIGN-IN SHEET AT EACH SESSION ATTENDED SO PROPER CREDIT MAY BE GIVEN!**

Please support future orientation and mobility specialists by **supporting the Ron Turner Memorial Scholarship Fund**. Just purchase raffle tickets during the conference. You'll be eligible to win great prizes! Winning tickets will be drawn on Saturday, 2:30 p.m. to 2:45 p.m. **Winners must claim their prizes by noon on Sunday.** Gratitude goes to the generous contributors who supported this worthy endeavor. CAOMS extends special thanks to **AmbuTech** for its exceptionally generous donation to the raffle.

CAOMS also thanks Suzanne Tierney and Sabine Grinstein Wecker for providing interpreter services.

Be sure to visit the exhibitors, showcasing the latest and greatest. The creative innovations will stimulate and boggle your mind.

Our profession continues to grow by quantum leaps. So, revitalize, relax and refresh during the conference. Unlock your mind and let your creative juices flow.

Thanks for attending.

# The Program

**Friday, November 4, 2011**

**4:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m.**      **Registration (*Points Lobby*)**

**7:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m.**      **Eat, Drink and Be Merry Social/No Host Cash Bar (*Point Cabrillo*)**

**Saturday, November 5, 2011**

**8:00 a.m. to 9:00 a.m.**      **Registration (*Points Lobby*)**

**8:30 a.m. to 9:00 a.m.**      **Sneak Peek at Exhibitors/Breakfast (*Points Alones/Piños*)**

**9:00 a.m. to 9:15 a.m.**      **Welcome and Opening Remarks (*Points Alones/Piños*)**

**9:15 a.m. to 10:45 a.m.**      **Keynote: Accessible BART Station Maps Project  
(1.5 hours of ACVREP credit)**

***Joshua A. Miele, Ph.D., Greg Kehret, Greeta Ahart***

The LightHouse, in partnership with Smith Kettlewell Eye Research Institute (SKI), is developing a booklet of accessible maps of BART stations to facilitate safe and more effective travel for individuals who are blind or visually impaired.

Joshua A. Miele, Ph.D., Associate Scientist at SKI has developed a smartpen based system for producing maps and other graphics in an audio-tactile form. This technology enables a person to touch a tactile map or graphic and hear specific audio information associated with the location being touched. This workshop explores this innovative project. (*Points Alones/Piños*)

**11:00 a.m. to Noon**      **General Session: Accessible GPS Options:  
from the iPhone to the PC (1.0 hour of ACVREP credit)**  
***Michael May, Jerry Kuns***

This presentation explains the common aspects and differences among the various accessible GPS systems on the market. The question no longer is whether a person who is blind should have access to the surrounding location information, but rather, what are one's individual wayfinding requirements and which system best addresses those needs? (*Points Alones/Piños*)

**Noon to 1:30 p.m.**      **Luncheon and Awards (No ACVREP credit, but a good time!)**

Who will join the elite group of those in our profession who have been honored with the coveted Pete Wurzburger Award? Past recipients include: Michael Meteyer (2009); Linda Myers (2007); Richard "Rick" Ludt (2005); Peter Dal Poggetto (2001); Jack Hazekamp (1999); Wendy Scheffers (1997); Kate Byrnes (1995); Sandra Rosen (1994); Rich Russo (1993); Burdell "Pete" Wurzburger (1992). (*La Grande*)

**1:30 p.m. to 2:30 p.m. Concurrent Sessions (1.0 hour of ACVREP credit)**

**Moving On: The Special Needs Program at Guiding Eyes for the Blind**

***Michael Meteyer***

This multimedia presentation includes a brief history of adaptations made by blind travelers throughout history in order to travel independently. Then the focus turns to the challenges and successes of people who have additional physical or mental challenges; and the program at Guiding Eyes that is designed for them. ***(Point Alones)***

**Lions, Tigers, and Bears . . . Oh My! Taking the OZ Out of Ozymandias**

***Jessica Trevino***

This presentation has three major areas of focus. The first area serves to present relevant information about ACVREP certification in relation to procedural actions to obtain certification/recertification and updates relative to ACVREP's certification program. The second area provides insight relative to current trends in the need for service, provision of service and the development of qualified professionals. The third and final area presents information regarding the future development of aligned professional structures within the vision rehabilitation and education professional field to address areas of need. This presentation is an open discussion format that encourages participant thoughts and comments. ***(Point Piños)***

**2:30 p.m. to 2:45 p.m. Raffle (Winners must claim prizes by noon on Sunday.)**

**2:45 p.m. to 4:15 p.m. Concurrent Sessions**

**Can We Talk? Fitting In The Expanded Core Curriculum (1.5 hours of ACVREP credit)**

***Patricia Maffei and Richard Rueda***

Participants engage in dialogue about creative solutions for fitting in the Expanded Core Curriculum content areas. Patti Maffei talks about the catalyst for writing "Quick and Easy ECC—The Hatlen Center Guide", which is currently under contract with APH, and will be available soon on Federal Quota. Richard Rueda talks about "STEP Mobile". Participants learn new methods for including the ECC into their busy schedules and how to include families in the process. ***(Point Piños)***

**Using Acting Techniques to Create Body Awareness, Confidence and Freedom in Blind and Visually Impaired Individuals (1.5 hours of ACVREP credit)**

***Marilee Talkington and Brandon Keith Biggs***

Watch a hands-on presentation and demonstration of dynamic acting, movement and breath techniques designed to create body awareness and freedom in individuals who are blind and visually impaired. Marilee Talkington coach actor/singer Brandon Keith Biggs. A panel discussion follows about physical activities and sports, including reasons they are important, how one does it, and the physiological benefits. ***(Point Alones)***

**"Hands-on GPS Treasure Hunt" (3.0 hours of ACVREP credit)**

***Michael May and Jerry Kuns***

Teams of three to five people, each lead by a GPS expert, will use the GPS to explore the area around the hotel. Compete against the other teams to find several treasures using the GPS and be first to the meeting place to win a prize. ***(Meet in the hotel lobby at 2:45 p.m.; return at 5:45 p.m.)***

**7:30 p.m. to 9:00 p.m. Marilee Talkington's TRUCE (Not for ACVREP credit)**

Excerpts from Marilee Talkington's award winning and critically acclaimed solo show about growing up visually impaired in a sighted world. *TRUCE* was heard on BBC Radio in 2010. ***(Points Alones/Piños)***

***Reminder: Set back clocks one hour!***

**Sunday, November 6, 2011**

**8:00 a.m. to 8:45 a.m. General Membership Meeting/Breakfast (Point Alones)**

**9:00 a.m. to 11:45 a.m. Exhibitors (Points Alones/Piños)**

**9:00 a.m. to 10:30 a.m. Concurrent Sessions**

**Creating A World of Possibilities: Falls Prevention and Orientation and Mobility for Elders and Adults with Visual Impairments and Multiple Disabilities (1.5 hours ACVREP credit)**  
**Sandra Rosen and Gina M. di Grazia**

Falls prevention is a very important aspect of education for our clients with visual impairments, but especially for those who are older and/or who experience multiple health and/or cognitive impairments. Learn some strategies to maximize mobility and quality of life options for these clients, and think creatively about how our very important services can be provided now and in the future for clients in health settings, including long term care environments. **(Point Piños)**

**Acting, Dynamic Movement and Presence (OPEN CLASS) (2.0 hours ACVREP credit)**  
**Marilee Talkington**

You are invited to participate in this OPEN CLASS in which Marilee teaches you several breath and movement techniques used to open individuals physically, emotionally and mentally. Experience the change for yourself. *Wear comfortable clothing. (Session ends at 11:00 a.m.) (Point Alones)*

**10:45 a.m. to 12:15 p.m. Concurrent Sessions (1.5 hours ACVREP credit)**

**Your Role In Increasing Accessibility**  
**Linda Myers**

- Development and Research (Does it work? Does it fill a need?)
- Manufacturers
- Education (what has been developed?)
- Consumer's Demand and Demand by Consumers
- Regulations and Standards
- Funding
- More Education (What has been installed? How to use it.) **(Point Alones)**

**Where To Draw The Line: Direct Service, Consultation or No O&M Service**  
**Michael Bliss, M.A., Kara V. Cenac, Michelle Dungjen**

Orientation and mobility specialists use the Michigan Severity Scale, the New York SSB Rating Scale, and sometimes, just our "intuition" or "gut feeling" in making decisions of where to draw the line between classifications of O&M service. This presentation introduces a simple three axes classification for discussion; small groups then break into writing a classification expanding the three axes, and regroup for a passionate discussion of where to draw the line. **(Point Piños)**

**12:15 p.m. Conference Concludes**

**THANK YOU FOR YOUR PARTICIPATION.**

# EXHIBITORS

## ACVREP

3333 North Campbell Avenue, Suite 2  
Tucson, Arizona 85719  
520-887-6816

[www.acvrep.org](http://www.acvrep.org)

Representative: Jessica Trevino

## AFB Senior Site

<http://www.afb.org/seniorsitehome.asp>

## AmbuTech

34 DeBaets Street  
Winnipeg, MB  
R2J 3S9  
Canada

800-561-3340 (phone); 800-267-5059 (fax)

[www.ambutech.com](http://www.ambutech.com)

[orders@ambutech.com](mailto:orders@ambutech.com)

## Cane Quest

527 North Dale Avenue  
Anaheim, California 92801  
714-821-5000, extension 1221  
Representative: Lea Ann Myers

## CRB1 Fund

650-833-9392

[www.CRB1.org](http://www.CRB1.org)

[teachersonja@yahoo.com](mailto:teachersonja@yahoo.com)

Representative: Sonja Biggs

## Haley Goodlett, Artist

[www.haleygoodlett.com](http://www.haleygoodlett.com)

[www.haleygoodlet.yolasite.com](http://www.haleygoodlet.yolasite.com)

[goodhaley@aol.com](mailto:goodhaley@aol.com)

Representative: Haley Goodlett

## Guide Dogs for the Blind

350 Los Ranchitos Road  
San Rafael, California 94903  
415-492-4199

[www.guidedogs.com](http://www.guidedogs.com)

[jkitahata@guidedogs.com](mailto:jkitahata@guidedogs.com)

Representative: Jeanine Kitahata, Outreach Coordinator

# EXHIBITORS

## Guiding Eyes for the Blind, Inc.

611 Granite Springs Road  
Yorktown Heights, New York 10598  
800-942-0149

[www.guidingeyes.org](http://www.guidingeyes.org)  
[info@guidingeyes.org](mailto:info@guidingeyes.org)  
Representative: Michael Meteyer

### ***I just got back!***

25 Vendola Drive  
San Rafael, California 94903  
415-472-5803; 415-497-7789  
[byrnesie@comcast.net](mailto:byrnesie@comcast.net)  
Representative: Kate Byrnes

## Russian Association of Orientation and Mobility Specialists

[Yana.dugan@gmail.com](mailto:Yana.dugan@gmail.com)  
Representative: Yana Dugan

### **Sendero Group**

1857 Glenmark Way  
Roseville, California 95747  
888-757-6810; 888-757-6807  
[www.SenderoGroup.com](http://www.SenderoGroup.com)  
[gps@senderogroup.com](mailto:gps@senderogroup.com)  
Representative: Katie Gilmore

### **Sterling Adaptives**

7665 Redwood Boulevard, Suite 100  
Novato, California 94945  
415-878-2922  
[www.sterlingadaptives.com](http://www.sterlingadaptives.com)  
[lesley@sterlingadaptives.com](mailto:lesley@sterlingadaptives.com)  
Representative: Lesley Ann Gibbons

*We regret any errors or omissions.*

*Created especially for the  
2011 CAOMS Statewide Conference  
by Midnight Oil Creations*