

SCIENCE FOR THE HANDICAPPED ASSOCIATION

Newsletter #4

June, 1975

-HISTORY-

SHA had its origins in a concurrent session at the 1972 NSTA Convention in Detroit. There were about 15 people present at presentations by Dorothy Curtis, Dave Brotski, Dr. Lloyd Bennet, and Jim Humphrey. We organized after a fashion, in that people signed up and I promised to see what could be arranged for the following year.

In 1973 at the NSTA Convention in Chicago, we had thirty people present and papers by Jim Humphrey and Ben Thompson. Later we met in Hollis Fenn's room and decided to organize into an association of people interested in promoting science for all handicapped children. To that point, science for EMH and TMH children had been the focus.

Today our membership has grown to about 150 educators from all over the United States and from the following areas of speciality:

Mentally Handicapped
Learning Disabilities
Emotionally Handicapped
Physical Disabilities
Cultural Disabilities

In addition to presenting talks and papers at the NSTA Convention, we have been active in other ways to promote science for the handicapped, but first I would like to review the 1975 Convention in Los Angeles.

1975 NSTA CONVENTION

By last count there were nine sessions on science for the handicapped (SFH).

Session S-149 Hopeful Alternatives for the Emotionally and Mentally Handicapped Child.

Janet Mansfield
Lola Holstetler
Connie Tate
Nancy Noeske
Bill Grant

Ball State University, Ohio
Dallas City Schools, Illinois
Baltimore Public Schools, Maryland
Milwaukee Public Schools, Wisconsin
Gallaudet College, Washington, D.C.

Session S-169 Contract Teaching -- A Method of Individualizing Science Instruction for the Learning Disabled-Behavior Disordered High School Student.

Mary Ann Ovník

Lyons Township High School,
Western Springs, Illinois

Session S-212 Individualizing for Special Students Science for the Hearing Impaired.

Barb Soderberg
(for Don Dailey)

University of Wisconsin-Superior, WI

Session S-245 Utilizing Science Experiences for Developing Visual Perception Skills.

Marlene Thier

Morange Public Schools, California

Session S-247 Metric Measurement Concepts for Children with Learning Disabilities.

Robert Todd

Virginia Polytechnic Institute
Blaksberg, Virginia

Session S-56 Science for the Handicapped Children--A Neglected Subject

Ken Ricker

University of Georgia, Athens, GA

Session S-151 Hopeful Alternatives for the Visually Handicapped Child (SCIS).

Herbert Thier

University of California, Berkeley

Session S-257 Harnessing the Resources of the Handicapped Child.

Joanne Hansen

Blythedale Children's Hospital,
Volhalla, New York

John Shulene

Aylen Junior High School,
Puyallup, Washington

Frank Franks

American Printing House for the Blind,
Louisville, Kentucky

Roy Gromme

BSCS, Boulder, Colorado

John Davis

USOE - Bureau for the Handicapped,
Washington, D.C.

Session S-150 Hopeful Alternatives for the Auditory Handicapped Child.

Bobbie Barron

Texas School for the Deaf,
Austin, Texas

In these nine sessions, I have counted 16 people! What is more important than the number of sessions, however, and also more important than the number of presentors, is the fact that we reached many people. From our survey, the average attendance per session was about 25. We communicated with 15 people at the 1973 Convention. This year we reached at least 250.

Presentors

DETROIT

At 1:00 p.m. on Sunday, we had a small meeting at the Hilton (if you weren't informed, I'm sorry) and a rough draft constitution was distributed for comments and additions. If you want a copy, write. At that time it was decided that Ben Thompson should, together with Roy Gromme and anyone else who wants input, nominate persons for the offices. If you wish to place someone on the ballot, write to either person. The offices will be: President Elect, President and Secretary-Treasurer. There will be no dues, since at this time the University of Wisconsin-Eau Claire, Department of Elementary Education, is willing to underwrite the expenses of typing, duplicating and mailing.

Let's all thank Dave Butts, Chairman, Department of Science Education, University of Georgia, Athens, Georgia 30602, for making the presentations possible.

1976 NSTA Convention, Philadelphia - March 19-23

We were a little late in making a bid to be on next year's program. The program had pretty well been decided on by the time the 1975 Convention met. However, we did request two concurrent sessions and are currently awaiting word from Leonard Krause, the Program Committee Chairman, to see if we have been accepted.

1976 Area NSTA Conventions

- Oklahoma City, Oklahoma -- October 9-11 -- Contact Matha Nell Dodson, Science Coordinator, 900 North Klein Street, Oklahoma City, Oklahoma 73106.
- Indianapolis, Indiana -- October 23-25 -- Contact Charlotte Boener, Science Teaching Center, Indiana State University, Terre Haute, Indiana 47809
- Atlanta, Georgia -- December 11-13 -- Contact Dallas Stewart, Department of Education, State Office Building, Atlanta, Georgia 30334.

Now why all the information? Just this -- if you have worked up a presentation based on something you do with science for the handicapped, or if you can conduct a hands-on workshop designed to show other science teachers what is involved in teaching science to handicapped children, then write to these people now. Our only service is to make people AWARE of the need to serve handicapped children and show them how it can be done. BE A SPEAKER.

A recent survey of elementary teachers has shown them to be interested mostly in techniques and information they can use in their classroom, and the same is probably true of high school teachers. Let's try to fill that need when we speak or write about SFH.

Don't forget that the CEC Convention would be a good place to introduce teachers of the handicapped to the possibilities science holds for reinforcing other areas of the curriculum.

BIBLIOGRAPHY UPDATE

Books -- Congratulations to James Humphrey on his book.

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Articles:

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Thier, Herbert D. We Can Do It Too. Science and Children, No. 4 (December, 1973), 7-9.

Thier, Herbert D. and Cooper, Kathy. Do You Have to See It to Believe It? Learning, Vol. 2, No. 8 (1974), 54-55.

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NEWS IN GENERAL

J. G. Cauley at the University of Connecticut, Storrs, reports on a project aimed at the psycho educational needs of learners using material experiences in science.

Paul Joslin at Drake University, Des Moines, Iowa is participating in a proposal to help prescience teachers learn how better to handle the mildly handicapped in the normal class setting. A block of time will be utilized in the methods course (including science). Once modules are developed, they will be available to other teacher training institutions.

Hans Lütken of the Royal Danish School of Educational Studies writes that he knows of no one in the country developing science materials for the handicapped, but some teachers are using SCIS for the EMH child.

Roy Gromme at BSCS headquarters in Boulder, Colorado (P.O. Box 930 ZIP 80302) is conducting an implementation workshop for the Me Now and Me And My Environment materials in Boulder July 14 through August 15. The deadline for application was May 1, but if your school is introducing these programs, give Roy a call, at the least he can get an area implementator to give you some help.

Bob Lustig, Psychology Department, U. of Connecticut, Storrs is participating in a program aimed at using ESS materials for the Emotionally Disturbed Child.

So much for news on curricula. If there are programs and projects, no matter how small, please send me information so it can be included in the next Newsletter.

AD HOC NSTA COMMITTEE ON SCIENCE FOR THE SPECIAL STUDENT (ALL HANDICAPPED)

This committee met during the Los Angeles Convention and drafted recommendations for the NSTA Board of Directors. It would be inappropriate to relate what these are now, but we hope to report on them in the next newsletter.

Members: John Davis, Project Director, Division of Innovative Development, Bureau of Education for the Handicapped, USOE
Roy O. Gromme, EMH Project Director, Biological Sciences Curriculum Study.
Mrs. Gertrude D. Hanes, Science Consultant, The Western Pennsylvania School for the Deaf.
Mrs. Anna A. Neal, Coordinator of Science, Fayette County Public Schools
Benjamin Thompson (Chairman) Science Professor, University of Wisconsin-Eau Claire

Membership:

Those of us who are not members of the Council for Exceptional Children should seriously consider applying to this organization. The dues are \$15.00 a year and include the organization's Journal - Exceptional Children.

1920 Association Drive, Reston, VA 22091

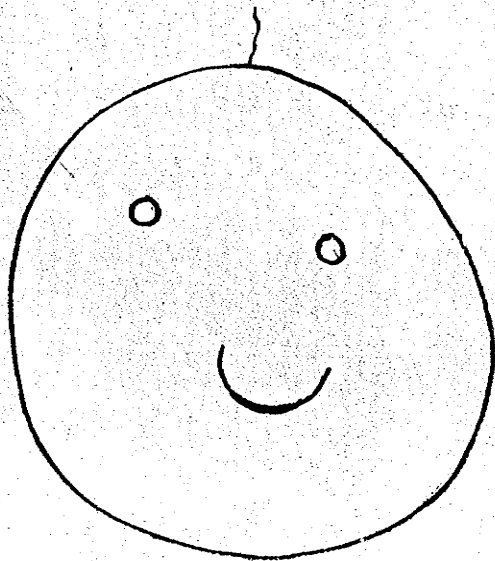
AND Some of us are not members of NSTA. Dues here vary with grade level. You may choose between a Journal for elementary, secondary, or college teachers. Articles on science for the handicapped are most likely to be published in the journal for elementary (Science and Children) or secondary (The Science Teacher). NSTA - 1742 Connecticut Ave., N.W., Washington, D.C. 20009. Elementary \$8.00. Regular (Secondary) \$15.00 and College \$12.00. The variation in dues results from the cost of publishing the journals.

Enclosed is a membership card. Get an interested friend to join and support our group. By the way, if you haven't sent the important information requested on the card, please do. Our directory will only be useful to you when it includes things like area of interest and so on.

- WRITE - News and ideas.
- W R E C R U I T - (Think about it).

Have a happy
summer.

Ben Thompson
For
Science for the Handicapped
Association



NEWS BULLETIN ! ! ! ! !

Last minute news on 1976 NSTA Convention in Philadelphia next March.

Bad news first. The Program Committee rejected our bid for two sessions.
Good news -- The Program Committee selected the session "Meeting the Teacher's
Responsibility to the Handicapped Through Science", Roy Gromme, JoAnne Hansen,
Frank Franks and John Davis. If one of these people cannot attend, we hope to
enlist the aid of Bill Grant, who was the first person listed for the second
session.