



Rooted in Tradition: Branching into the Future

November 16-18, 2016

*Portland Marriott at Sable Oaks
South Portland, ME*

Please complete all pages of this form and return with payment:

NEAER Conference 2016

PO Box 1761

Auburn, ME 04211

Make checks payable to:

NE/AER

OR

Payment can also be made through Paypal.

Email the completed registration form to register2016neaer@gmail.com
and send the appropriate fee through Paypal:

<http://PayPal.me/NEAER>

**A \$50.00 fee will be applied to registrations postmarked after our Early
Bird date of October 5, 2016**

FMI, contact the registration committee at register2016neaer@gmail.com

Accommodations:

Portland Marriott at Sable Oaks
200 Sable Oaks Dr.
South Portland, ME 04106
(800) 752-8810 or (207) 752-8810

All reservations must be made by Monday **October 17, 2016**. In order to receive the preferred rates, individuals with telephone requests must identify themselves with the ***Northeast Chapter of the Association for the Education and Rehabilitation of the Blind and Visually Impaired***. Individuals need to call 1-800-752-8810.

NE/AER Conference rate \$109 + 8% tax for double occupancy.

Registration Rates

Full conference rate includes Awards Banquet on Wednesday, breakfast and lunch on Thursday, the President's Reception on Thursday and breakfast on Friday. Prices are in U.S. dollars.

	<u>AER Member</u>	<u>Non-member</u>	<u>Student Member</u>
Full Conference	\$200.00 <input type="checkbox"/>	\$370.00 <input type="checkbox"/>	\$155.00 <input type="checkbox"/>
Wednesday only (includes Banquet)	\$170.00 <input type="checkbox"/>	\$220.00 <input type="checkbox"/>	\$140.00 <input type="checkbox"/>
Thursday only (includes lunch and reception)	\$130.00 <input type="checkbox"/>	\$180.00 <input type="checkbox"/>	\$115.00 <input type="checkbox"/>
Friday only	\$80.00 <input type="checkbox"/>	\$90.00 <input type="checkbox"/>	\$75.00 <input type="checkbox"/>
<u>Pre-conferences</u> (includes continental breakfast and buffet lunch)			
Aging Division	\$35 <input type="checkbox"/>	\$45 <input type="checkbox"/>	\$20 <input type="checkbox"/>
DB/MH/IT Division	\$50 <input type="checkbox"/>	\$65 <input type="checkbox"/>	\$35 <input type="checkbox"/>

Add \$50 if postmarked after October 5, 2016
Conference Registration Form (please print)

Name: _____ E-mail: _____

Address: _____

City, State, Zip: _____

Work phone: _____

Alternate phone: _____

AER Membership # and expiration Date:

Your membership number must be included to receive membership rate. If you are not a member and would like to join, please visit www.AERBVI.org.

Awards Banquet (your dinner is included in registration)

Please make your banquet selection for the following choices, entering the number of tickets you are requesting. Any **additional** tickets cost \$60 each.

- _____ Hand rolled Vegetarian Lasagna with marinara sauce
_____ Chicken Venetian (filled with herbs, sun-dried tomato and prosciutto basil cheese sauce)
_____ Pan seared Atlantic Salmon with orange ginger glaze

Box Lunch Choices (your lunch is included in registration)

Please make your selection for the box lunch on **Thursday** entering the number of tickets you are requesting. Any **additional** tickets are \$25 each.

- _____ Tuscan Sandwich (Turkey, Mozzarella, Roasted Peppers and Fresh Basil on Focaccia)
_____ Portobello Wrap (Portobello Mushroom, Roasted Pepper, Cucumber, Tomato and Muenster on a Wrap)

Session Selections

Please select the concurrent session you anticipate attending.

Wednesday, November 16

- | | | | | |
|-----------------------------|-----------------------------|-----------------------------|-----------------------------|------------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> W1 | <input type="checkbox"/> W2 | <input type="checkbox"/> W3 | <input type="checkbox"/> W4 | <input type="checkbox"/> W5 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> W6 | <input type="checkbox"/> W7 | <input type="checkbox"/> W8 | <input type="checkbox"/> W9 | <input type="checkbox"/> W10 |

Thursday, November 17

- | | | | | |
|------------------------------|------------------------------|------------------------------|------------------------------|------------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> T1 | <input type="checkbox"/> T2 | <input type="checkbox"/> T3 | <input type="checkbox"/> T4 | <input type="checkbox"/> T5 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> T6 | <input type="checkbox"/> T7 | <input type="checkbox"/> T8 | <input type="checkbox"/> T9 | <input type="checkbox"/> T10 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> T11 | <input type="checkbox"/> T12 | <input type="checkbox"/> T13 | <input type="checkbox"/> T14 | <input type="checkbox"/> T15 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> T16 | <input type="checkbox"/> T17 | <input type="checkbox"/> T18 | <input type="checkbox"/> T19 | <input type="checkbox"/> T20 |

Friday, November 18

- | | | | | |
|-----------------------------|-----------------------------|-----------------------------|-----------------------------|-----------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> F1 | <input type="checkbox"/> F2 | <input type="checkbox"/> F3 | <input type="checkbox"/> F4 | <input type="checkbox"/> F5 |
|-----------------------------|-----------------------------|-----------------------------|-----------------------------|-----------------------------|

I would like orientation to the hotel: Yes No

Additional modifications/accommodation requests:

Conference materials:

My preference is a hard copy of the conference program in

Standard Print _____

24 point Large Print _____

Braille _____

Summary of Conference Costs

Full Conference Registration..... \$ _____
Wednesday Only Registration..... \$ _____
Thursday Only Registration..... \$ _____
Friday Only Registration..... \$ _____
Aging Division Pre-conference..... \$ _____
DB/MH/IT Pre-conference..... \$ _____

Preconference Box Lunch Choices (your lunch is included with **preconference** registration only)

_____ Tuscan Sandwich (Turkey, Mozzarella, Roasted Peppers and Fresh Basil on Focaccia)

_____ Portobello Wrap (Portobello Mushroom, Roasted Pepper, Cucumber, Tomato and Muenster on a Wrap)

_____ additional banquet tickets (\$60 ea.) \$ _____

_____ additional box lunch tickets (\$25 ea.) \$ _____

Late fee (if postmarked after Oct. 5) (\$50) \$ _____

Total enclosed \$ _____

Please complete all pages of this form and return with payment:

NEAER Conference 2016

PO Box 1761

Auburn, ME 04211

Make checks payable to: **NE/AER**

or

Email the completed registration form to register2016near@gmail.com
and send the appropriate fee through Paypal:

<http://PayPal.me/NEAER>

PROGRAM

Wednesday, November 16th

8:00-11:00 **Pre-Conferences**

PC1 **The Emotional Side of Diabetes**

Sponsored by: Aging Division

J. John Pimentel, RN, BSN, CDOE, Diabetes Program Manager

Vision Rehabilitation Therapist

Karen McKenna, RN, CVRT, Diabetes Program Manager

John, Barney and Ken – part of a panel to discuss their personal journeys with diabetes

Adele Geringer, LICSW, COMS

Cammy Holway-Moraros, CVRT, LSW, Graduate Certificate of Gerontology

The self-management of diabetes, a major cause of vision loss, is dramatically impacted by vision loss. This program will discuss the emotional and psychosocial barriers to diabetes self-management after vision loss, and will suggest strategies to assist the vision professional in understanding and addressing those barriers. Individuals with diabetes will be joining this panel and will share the personal impact living with diabetes has had on them.

PC2 **“Strategies for Tactile Communication with Students Who Are Deafblind, or Blind with Additional Disabilities”**

Sponsored by: Deafblind/MH and Infant-Toddler-Preschool Division

Barbara Miles

Through instructional videos, the presenter will show participants skillful and successful tactile conversational interactions with students who are deafblind, or blind with additional disabilities. Throughout her presentation, it is the goal of the presenter to help participants:

! see what successful interactions look like.

! become more skilled at noticing the elements of successful tactile interaction.

! to be able to use the skills in their own interactions.

! to be able to assess their own interactions with students.

She would like to have a short “simulation experience” involving joint tactile attention to an object.

12-1:30 **Welcome**

Opening Remarks from Conference Chairs, Coretta Trembley and Sharisse Roberts

Keynote Address: Creating the Can Do Spirit

Jim Elliott, Diveheart

2-3:30

Concurrent Sessions

W1

One if by land, two if by sea: how aquatherapy can enhance your student's body awareness

Kimberly Stumph

Many of our O&M students struggle with understanding their bodies in space. Working in the pool can provide additional sensory input that can translate to better body awareness, muscle memory, and balance on land.

W2

Homeless Veterans

Erica Madaus, Sean Lonergan, Kerrin Charpentier

This presentation will provide you with some different initiatives developed to support our Veterans (those with disabilities and those whom are elder). Presentations will focus on Housing-Intensive Case Management, techniques and resources used in Homeless Outreach with a focus on GPD (grant and per diem) and the VA's from Hospital to Home program and grant and per diem transitional housing models. Opportunities for session participants to discuss these programs and hear vignettes of successful interventions will be included.

W3

From Manipulation to Communication: Teaching Core Vocabulary to Lily

Janet Ulwick-Sacca, Michelle Britt-Thompson

This case study of implementing a communication system for a preschool student with CVI and Autism will discuss the challenges and the successes in the use of a variety of communication approaches, including low and high tech communication devices. The combination of adaptations for CVI and Autism, awareness of motor planning, sensitivity to sensory processing, application of core word vocabulary, and use of tactile cues/grids resulted in Lily's successful use of a Speech Generating Device - accomplished with an interdisciplinary approach in a public school setting.

W4

"When the Challenges of Aging and Visual Impairment Collide: Working Together to Build a Toolbox of Rehab Ideas of Best Care for Older Adults"

Kathy Clarrage, Regi Robnett, Ph.D., OTR/L, FAOTA

This session will explore the changes associated with aging that can impact cognition and the biopsychosocial dimensions of older adults, especially as these changes relate to functional treatments for people with visual impairments. Attendees will have the opportunity to participate in case studies in order to share expertise on ways to improve interventions for older adults with different types of visual loss and additional aging challenges.

W5 **Do-It-On-A-Dime: Affordably Meeting Adapted Daily Living Supply Needs**

Samantha Green, Aisha Hixon

With many budgets shrinking, of both the blind and visually impaired population and those agencies who serve them, we all have to become creative with our spending. We will show you how teaching bargaining skills, shopping at discount stores, and purchasing products locally, can loosen even the tightest of budgets.

4-5:30 **Concurrent Sessions**

W6 **Maine Rehabilitation Center - The Vocational Component**

Samantha Fenderson, James Howard, John D'Amour

Gain an overview and understanding of the Vocational Component of the Maine Rehabilitation Center

W7 **Filling the Accessibility Gaps in the Classroom**

Nancy Wittmershaus

Learn ways to make materials accessible in the multimedia academic classroom, get new ideas for accessibility for students with multiple disabilities and CVI, and bring your iPad and/or laptop with screen reader for some hands-on practice.

W8 **Google Maps for Itinerant**

Sharisse Roberts

Google Maps is a fabulous tool, but let's talk about how you can use it for managing caseloads/service areas, identifying staffing needs and maximizing staffing/travel times? Real-time look at how to do all of this and more!

W9 **Titles Matter! The Power of Language to Increase the Visibility / Effectiveness of Low Incidence Services for individuals with Visual Impairment**

Karen S. Ross, Ph.D., Laura Bozeman, Ph.D.

This presentation will summarize recent discussions related to the possible revamping of licensure standards and titles in education and rehabilitation, and the potential impact on service delivery, recruitment, university preparation, research, funding and credibility as a field.

W10 **Teaching Orientation & Mobility to Guide Dog Handlers**

Jill Suarez, Gretchen Fisher Orr

Teaching Orientation & Mobility to a guide dog handler presents unique challenges and considerations. Through personal experience, case studies and Q & As, we will provide you with information about structuring a successful lesson and addressing the issues which tend to arise.

6:30-9 **Awards Banquet**

Thursday, November 17th

7:45-8:45 **Division Meetings**

VRT
Education & Itinerant
Info/Technology
Psychosocial
Personnel Prep

Vendor Exhibits

9-10:30 **Concurrent Sessions**

T1 **Center Based Rehabilitation – A Mindset, Not Just A Skill Set**

Rabih Dow, John McMahon, Susan Anderson, Steven Kelley, Bonita Gouzie

Why did the State of Maine establish a vision rehabilitation center? An intensive, multi-disciplinary center based model is designed to improve successful closures.

T2 **The CVI Literacy Matrix©: Understanding How to Connect Literacy across All Three Phases of CVI**

Yvonne Locke

The session will provide an introduction to The CVI Matrix©, a tool to assist TVIs, teachers and families in understanding how to connect literacy and CVI. The CVI Matrix© connects literacy principles to accommodations and instructional strategies for each of the three Phases of CVI with consideration to the CVI characteristics of complexity of object, complexity of array and novelty.

T3

How to be Attractive: Recruitment

Dan Norris, Hana Boxerman, Catherine Summ

In this session, we will explore ways to intensively recruit for 'new blood' in all our professional fields, as well as less-intense routines that promote our field as we go about our regular duties. Participants will be given materials to bring back into their regions and learn who in their state, the province of Quebec and the Maritimes is a resource for ideas and support.

T4

Let's Take a Walk: Pedestrian enhancements which impact Pedestrians with vision loss

Meg Robertson, Michelle Antinarelli

Session will discuss how COMS and Consumers can advocate locally for better pedestrian access to the community. Learn about different traffic calming methods, traffic control devices, public right of way issues which impact pedestrian environments.

T5

Technical Advisors: A new approach to supervision and supporting staff

Nancy Moulton, Lori Spencer

Technical advisors are not supervisors but they are an essential component in providing to support to TVI's throughout Maine in a variety of different areas of expertise. In Maine we have created 5-6 technical advisor positions in areas such as CVI, Braille and Assessment. Learn how you might create your own program to meet the unique needs of your state and discipline. Not just for TVI's!

11-12

Concurrent Sessions

T6

Dog Guide Mobility: What O&M Specialists Need to Know

David Trzaska

This session will include information about identifying what a dog guide applicant needs to master during O&M lessons before getting a dog guide.

The program will also include best practices when working with a dog guide team.

T7 **The VA and you!**
Kelli Jarosz, Amber Vaillancourt, Chris Jarosz

The Department of Veterans Affairs provides blind rehabilitation services in all communities throughout New England! Community agencies often have questions about services, processes, and staff. This presentation will answer all your questions.

T8 **The Playground as the Perfect Place for Parents to Reinforce Early O&M Skills**
Eric Shaw

We need parents to be active participants in their children's learning of O&M skills. The playground offers a great environment to help reinforce these skills while having fun. This session will go through some strategies to help parents be more involved in their children learning basic O&M skills.

T9 **Introducing The Amazon Echo**
Drew Metzger, Paul Thompson, Jr.

The session will discuss the features of the Amazon Echo. Its potential uses for the visually impaired will also be discussed.

T10 **Running Out of Time**
Joann A. Callahan, Tina de Araujo

With a PowerPoint presentation, we show that as professionals, we hinder students' access to information and development of independence at critical times through the overuse of duplicating machines, teacher's aides and paraprofessionals. We need to decrease the use of the duplicating machine and over-protection techniques and increasingly advocate for the use of more practical lifelong accessibility to information and life experiences, being open to the possibility of having to take more time for educational progress but with far-reaching life-long rewards.

12-1:30 **Boxed Lunches, Vendor Hall, Poster Sessions**

1:30-2:30 **Concurrent Sessions**

T11 **Life 101, 2 week Transition program for students ages 14 and up**
Judy Wolfe, Nancy Moulton, Kathy Clarrage, Cammy Holway-Moraros

A panel describing Life 101, a two week summer program focusing on developing skills needed for the world of work. It encompasses intensive instruction in vocational skills and exploration, orientation and mobility, and daily living skills.

T12 **Access Technology Wading Pool**
Steven Kelley

This session will focus on using the NLS Talking Book Player and other easy-to-use tools to get started teaching/learning access technology.

T13 **Improving the Orientation, Navigation and Problem Solving skills of Internet Users with Visual Impairments**
Isabelle Brennan, Natalie Martiniello, Michele Reed

Though assistive technology training provides instruction on the use of various tools to perform specific tasks, an often-overlooked question is whether the training provided truly facilitates and fosters independent access in real-life situations. Drawing on Orientation and Mobility, this presentation explores the competencies, concepts and problem-solving skills needed for successful navigation with physical environments, and describes how these O&M concepts and strategies facilitate the learning of website navigation by internet users with visual impairments.

T14 **A Low Vision Clinic The 5 S way!**
Kelli Jarosz, Amber Vaillancourt, Chris Jarosz

This session will assist attendees when developing or organizing a new or established clinic! Session will discuss the 5S Philosophy and how it can apply to them.

T15 **NEW Professional Master's Program in Visual Impairment at the School of Optometry, University of Montreal**
Anne Jarry

The school of Optometry is now offering three new Master's programs in visual impairment in both French and English. This presentation will give a summary of the courses offered in the 3 programs: Vision Rehabilitation Therapy, Orientation & Mobility and Low Vision Therapy.

2:30-3:30 **Vendor Raffles**

3:30-5:00 **Concurrent Sessions**

T16 **Para Transit, Travel Training and O&M**
Meg Robertson, Jane Rosen

This session will discuss eligibility for Para Transit, and the different uses of para transit a COMS can use as teaching tools. Transit Travel training programs will also be discussed and how a COMS can partner with these programs.

T17 **The Basics of OrCam**
Gail Brown

An overview of OrCam will be presented including its current features, screening criteria and correct assessment of potential users.

T18 **There is Nothing Mild About Mild Cerebral Visual Impairment!**
Mary T. Morse, Ph.D.

Many students with normal-to-near-normal visual acuity and no obvious neurological challenges may have undiagnosed cerebral visual impairment (CVI). CVI may be the primary disability or it may be a co-existing disability but it is the cluster of possible challenges that may guide the initial identification.

T19 **Accessible Digital Documents for All**
John E. Brandt

Today's learning environment involves the use of instructional materials taking many digital forms. This workshop will help participants learn about what is needed to ensure their digital documents are accessible to all.

T20 **Introduction to Eccentric Viewing Training for the Busy CVRT**
Melinda Underwood, Lisa Smith

This session will introduce the concepts behind EVT and other strategies to help those with central field loss to make the best use of available vision. The focus will be on accessing quick and easy techniques and tools to help the client learn these skills as independently as possible, beginning with an introduction to resources and ending with a chance to share knowledge and experiences from the field.

5:15-6:15 **Business Meeting**

Night on the Town

Friday, November 18th

7:45-8:45 Division Meetings

Aging
O&M
DB/MI/IT
VR Counselling/Employ/BEP
Low Vision

9:15-10:45 Concurrent Sessions

F1 Collaborative Tactile Map Project

Sharisse Roberts, Sara Henry, Amy Sturgeon
Come and learn about the collaborative Tactile Map project with the University of Maine's Disability Support Services (Orono campus) and the Division for the Blind and VI's O&M Instructor, Sharisse Roberts.

F2 Transition, Collaboration and Community Based Learning.....putting the pieces together for success

Jane Rosen, Judy Freedman Fask, Natacha Lebron Rodriguez, Veronica Santiago

Learn the benefits of community based learning which creates meaningful and unique learning opportunities for transition aged students and community members. Witness the strength of all as individuals learn from and with each other in this transformative approach.

9:30-10:30 Concurrent Sessions

F3 Tips to Teaching Technology

Anne M. Sattler, Susan Summers

During this session we are going to bring technology back to the basics of how to introduce and teach these products. Our hope is to remove the general anxiety that comes along with teaching unfamiliar technology by demonstrating creative adaptations and techniques to teaching.

F4 A Walk in the Woods with Your Eyes Closed: Helping children learn about the natural world through sound

Dennis Gallant

This workshop will provide participants an opportunity to learn about basic concepts, strategies, equipment and resources for helping children who are

blind or visually impaired use the soundscape of a particular location to learn about its landscape, vegetation, wildlife, and ecology. Participants will be given the opportunity to listen to specific animal sounds and learn how to use such information to gain a better understanding of the natural environment.

F5

Double It

Paul Del Frari

Double It is the application of the photography measure "Depth of Field" to judging the distance we should position our digital devices (cell phone cameras and the like) from the object we need to examine in order to capture the whole of it in one picture with sufficient clarity to apply digital magnification to it.

Be sure to bring a digital camera of your choice with you.

11:15-12:45

Closing Speaker

AER and NE/AER Going Forward

Louis M. Tutt, Executive Director, AER

Closing Remarks

Coretta Trembley and Sharisse Roberts
Conference Chairs

1-2:30

Pass the Torch Meeting/Luncheon