



The AT Messenger

....bringing technology to you

Published by the Delaware Assistive Technology Initiative

Vol. 3, Issue 5, Sept/Oct 1995

If Knowledge is Power...

...then this year's DATI conference will strengthen both consumers and service providers in the quest for improved AT services. When you join us for this event on Thursday, September 28 at Clayton Hall in Newark, you will be astounded at what your \$10 registration fee gets you--early morning refreshments, a keynote address telling us in plain English what is going on in Washington, presentations on a wide range of AT topics, lunch, and an exciting exhibit of AT products and services.

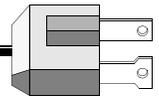
You've told us what kinds of topics you'd like to see addressed at this conference, and our line-up for this year reflects these preferences: Medicaid coverage for AT, accessibility issues in Delaware schools, seating and positioning, computer access, use of AT by elder citizens, rehabilitation robotics, and AT applications for people with limited cognitive abilities.

Turn to the next two pages for the conference schedule and session descriptions. You'll find a registration form in the middle of this newsletter; please copy and share it with others who don't yet receive the *AT Messenger!*

As with most good things, this is a time-limited offer, so send in your registration today.

Assistive Technology: More Power To You

September 28, 1995
8:00 a.m.- 4:30 p.m.
John Clayton Conference Center
University of Delaware, Newark, DE



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Assistive Technology: More Power to You Schedule of Events	
8:00-9:00 a.m.	Registration
9:00-10:00 a.m.	Opening & Keynote
10:00-10:30 a.m.	Break for Exhibits
10:30-Noon	Breakout Sessions 1-3
Noon-1:00 p.m.	Lunch
1:00 p.m.-2:30 p.m.	Breakout Sessions 4-6
2:30-3:00 p.m.	Break for Exhibits
3:00-4:30 p.m.	Breakout Sessions 7-9

Lodging Accommodations Closest to Clayton Hall Conference Center

At Interstate 95 & Rt. 896, Exit 1...

Comfort Inn, 1120 S. College Ave.,
800-441-7564
Howard Johnson, 1119 S. College Ave.,
800-654-2000

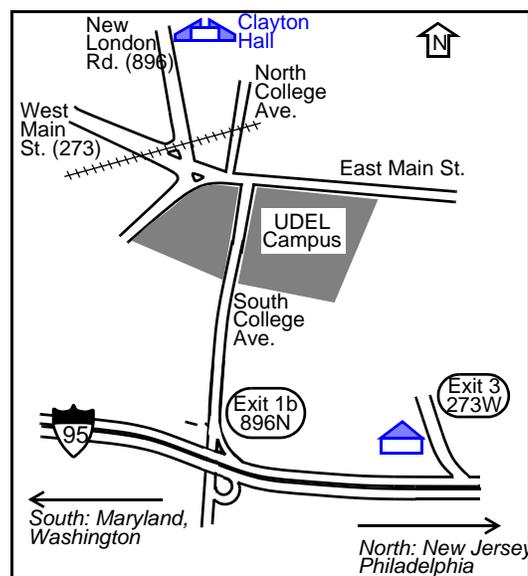
At Interstate 95 & Rt. 273, Exit 3...

Best Western, 260 Chapman Road,
800-633-3203
Hampton Inn, Three Concord Lane,
800-426-7866
Holiday Inn, 1203 Christiana Road,
800-465-4329
McIntosh Inn, 100 McIntosh Plaza,
800-444-2775

All addresses are Newark, Delaware.

Directions to Clayton Hall Conference Center

Clayton Hall is on Route 896 in Newark, just north of the University of Delaware's Main Campus. From either direction take Interstate 95 to the 896 North exit for Newark and the University campus. Follow signs for 896 North until you come to the entrance to Clayton Hall on the right.



Session Descriptions

1) AT Overview

Maureen Schweitzer, DATI Kent County ATRC

Basic introduction of assistive aids from low-tech to high-tech for people of all ages and disabilities. The role of the DATI ATRCs and other related services will be discussed.

2) What is Happening with Medicaid Coverage of AT?

Brian Hartman, Esquire, Disabilities Law Program

This seminar will provide an overview of Medicaid coverage of AT and an opportunity to discuss consumer issues. The panel will include an attorney, a provider, a Medicaid administrator, and DATI staff.

3) School Accessibility Panel

Sue Weimer, P.A.I.R., Chair; Wayne Carter, Larry Field, Gerard Landreth

How accessible are our schools? This group of panelists will discuss the current status of accessibility in our schools, and mechanisms through funding and advocacy to improve access.

4) Computer Access for Everyone—Intellikeys, Click-It & More

Ed Salisbury and Patty Hove, DATI Kent County ATRC

Overview of alternative access methods for IBM and Macintosh computers, especially focusing on Intellikeys, Overlay Maker and Click-It, a new product from Intellitools. Participants will gain an understanding of the broad applications of these technologies for educational and vocational purposes.

5) Overview of Wheelchair Seating & Positioning with an Emphasis on Technology & Assessment (Session I)

Nancy Ranalli, Jill Bauder, Michael Meyreles, Easter Seal Society of Del-Mar

Demonstration of various technology to assess appropriate seating and positioning needs. Presentation will include an actual seating evaluation. Session I will include information on basic seating systems and components.

6) Assistive Technology & Home Modification for Older Persons with Disabilities

Thomas Burford, Center for AT, SUNY Buffalo

This presentation will provide an overview of applications of assistive devices and home modifications that will aid older persons to carry out the tasks of daily living and maintain their functional independence.

(cont'd. on page 4)

AT: More Power to You *(cont'd from page 3)*

7) ECT Teaching: Practical Strategies for Teaching Functional Communication Skills

Susan Quinlisk-Gill

Environmental Communication Teaching (ECT) targets communication in meaningful contexts and provides partners with skills to prompt rather than preempt those with limited cognitive ability. The strategies presented are applicable in a multitude of situations.

8) Overview of Wheelchair Seating & Positioning with an Emphasis on Technology & Assessment (Session II)

Session II will build on Session I through application to client case studies.

9) Robotics Research

William Harwin, Bob Piech, ASEL, University of DE/A.I. duPont Institute, Richard Howell, Ohio State University

Overview of existing robotic technology available for individuals with disabilities. Presentation will also include demonstrations of current research projects at ASEL, including projects in educational and vocational robotics and the Consumer Innovation Laboratory.

NiCad Batteries

by Dan Weirich

Many adaptive devices use NiCads for their power. I've read more than one article regarding NiCad batteries and I don't want to plagiarize or be repetitive. However, there still seems to be some confusion regarding the charging of NiCad batteries and this article is written to eliminate some of the confusion.

NiCad batteries have two lives. When discussing NiCads you must explain which life you are talking about. The first life is, "How long will the batteries deliver power to my device before going dead?" The second life is, "How long before they must be replaced?"

The answer to the first question is dependant upon the batteries and the device they are powering. Batteries are rated in milliamp hours. This rating is *power delivered* multiplied by *hours*. An analogy to this rating would be—my body can run one mile in eight minutes or eight body-minutes. Therefore (theoretically) I should also be able to run one-half mile in four minutes or even fifty miles in 400 minutes. As a matter of fact, I cannot run fifty miles but the point is this: milliamp hours are almost linear. If your device uses twice as much power as my device, my device will last twice as long as your device on a full charge if we both use the same batteries. Other factors such as temperature are also important but I'm not getting into all the possible factors.

What this all boils down to is this—if you are buying NiCad batteries from a store, you should find out what the milliamp hour rating is for the batteries. Bargain batteries may not be such a bargain if their milliamp hour rating is low. I just opened a battery catalog and can find double A batteries rated anywhere from 650 to 800 milliamp hours. If you draw 800 milliamps from 800 milliamp hour batteries, your device will run for one hour. If you draw 400 milliamps from the same batteries your device will run for two hours, and so on.

To make this more confusing, NiCad batteries have a memory. If the batteries in your device are capable of running eight hours on a full charge, but you repeatedly stop the device after four hours and then recharge the batteries, after a while your batteries will only be capable of delivering power for four hours. NiCads "remember" how much is asked of them. The best way to use NiCads is to always run them all the way down followed by a full recharging. By the way, this memory problem is temporary. Repeatedly fully charging and discharging will bring the battery back to its maximum capacity after a period of time.

NiCad Batteries *(cont'd from page 5)*

Another factor is age. The milliamp hour rating is for new batteries. As time passes the capacity will decrease. Fortunately, modern NiCads keep most of their capacity until just before they fail. Once the capacity starts to decrease, it's time to buy new batteries. Just like my body and running—age matters.

The second life is related to the number of recharges. NiCads can typically be recharged a few hundred times (200 to 500). No one will tie this number down because it is totally dependant on the user, the device, and the environment it's stored and used in. It's analogous to two drivers—the first driver slows the car gradually when coming to a stop sign and the second driver continues at full speed until the last moment and then slams on the brakes. The second driver will have to change the brakes sooner. In any event, if you have to recharge your batteries daily you may have to replace your batteries after the first year.

If you need your device daily there is little you can do to lengthen this life. If you have the option of operating your device on either NiCads or plugging it into the wall (what we engineer types refer to as “AC”), plugging it into the wall will lengthen this life. Of course they will last longer if you don't use them. This isn't quite true however; read on.

In the real world, most devices don't draw a constant amount of current. Tape recorders draw a lot when rewinding and fastforwarding but much less when just playing. Microprocessors have “sleep” modes which cause them to draw much less power when they are not computing. People forget and leave batteries dead for weeks at a time and then find they don't hold a charge like they used to. Operating in cold temperatures and storing in hot temperatures both cause problems.

If you leave your device on and it doesn't have a circuit to protect against it, the batteries may get damaged. If NiCad batteries are completely shorted out, individual cells may act as if they are plugged in backwards and then the whole battery pack won't deliver the proper voltage. When I advise you to run batteries completely, I am referring to the power level your device considers as run down. Some devices beep or illuminate a “battery low” light at this level.

My advice is this—when using NiCads let them run down completely prior to recharging. If you occasionally break this rule, it's not the end of the world, but don't make it a habit. Also, if you have the option of using either AC or batteries, use the AC. But (and this is a big but) you should run the batteries completely down a minimum of once per month or they will “remember” that they don't have to deliver any power—and they won't.

This article was based on one originally appearing in July 1995 “Voice of Vision”. Dan Weirich has given his permission to share it with our readership.

(cont'd. on page 7)

NiCad Batteries *(cont'd from page 6)*

*Ed Salisbury, DATI AT Specialist in Kent County, adds: For any system using a laptop computer, a deep cycle battery charge is recommended along with an extra battery or two. A deep cycle charger discharges the battery completely before charging thus helping to avoid the memory effect. For systems that have easily accessible batteries, it is a good idea to have an extra charged battery on hand that can be used while the other battery is charging, especially if a deep cycle charger is being used.



Making Your Mobile Home Accessible

We've recently learned of two resources for those considering adapting mobile homes to improve accessibility.

- *How to Modify a Mobile Home for Accessibility* (free)
The Access Group
222 Cherokee St.
Marietta, GA 30060
(404) 514-7454
- *Mobile Homes, Alternative Housing for the Handicapped* (HUD-0000-59, \$10)
HUD User
P.O. Box 6091
Rockville, MD 20849
(800) 245-2691 (Voice only)



Delaware Recycles AT

There are thousands of people in Delaware who use AT, and many, many more who need it. That is why the Delaware Assistive Technology Initiative has begun its equipment recycling program, called **Delaware Recycles AT**. The program provides a means for people to sell or donate the equipment they no longer need to those who could benefit from it. This is how it works: DATI maintains a database of equipment that people wish to sell or donate, and another database of equipment that people are seeking. DATI does not handle the actual transfer of equipment between parties, but simply puts them in touch with one another so that they might work out the details of the transaction between them.

Since the start of the program last year, many equipment exchanges have taken place. People have been able to acquire things that they could not otherwise have afforded to purchase. If you'd like more information, or have equipment or an equipment need, call the DATI office at (302) 651-6790.

Devices Available:

Bath Chair-Good Condition-Free!
Bathtub Bench, Good Condition, \$100
Bathtub Transfer Bench, \$120
Bean Pillow with liner & cover, \$55
Bedside Commode (2), \$55 each
B.O.S.S. 8000-Casio Organizer, \$130
Child Bath Support Seat (2), \$190 each
Commode Chairs-Good condition-Free!
Geriatric Chair-Brand New, \$600
High Back Toilet Support/Child, \$225
Invacare Patient Hydraulic Lift-Good Condition, \$500
Leg Braces-(2) for left leg, needs minor repair, Free!
Manual wheelchairs-adult, Good Condition, Free!
Outdoor stair lift-Free!
Portable Shampoo Tray, \$30
Portable & Hand-held Shower Hose, \$5
Quad Shower/Commode Chair, \$1,050
Raised Toilet Seat w/rails, \$60
Raised Toilet Seat, adjustable, \$35
Scan Man w/catchword PRO OCR for windows, \$280

(cont'd. on page 9)

Delaware Recycles AT *(cont'd from page 8)*

Scanning Lightwriter, \$1,400

Shampoo Rinse Tray, \$30

Shower Chair with Toilet Pail and Foot rests, \$200

Sonic Alert Baby Cry Signaler, \$30

Telecaption Caption Decode, \$115

Three-wheeled Scooter-child's, Good condition, Free!

Three-wheeled Scooter with carrying baskets, motorized lift to store chair in trunk, Good condition, \$2,500

Trunk Lift for Rascal brand three-wheeled scooter, Good Condition, \$20

Tubby II Chair, \$190

Unmouse, \$80

Upper Body Brace, Like New, Free!

Voice dialer telephone, 5 years old, price negotiable

Walkers-Good Condition-Free!

Walker-Works Fine-\$20

Windsor Feeding Machine-Good condition, \$700 or best offer

Devices Needed:

386 PCs

Easy Lift Chairs

Stair Glides

TDD

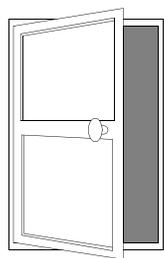
Three-wheeled Powered Scooters

Video Cassette Recorder

Wheelchairs (manual & electric)

Wheelchair Ramp (portable)

Protecting and Enhancing AT Access in Delaware



During the Fall of 1994, the Disabilities Law Program (DLP) of Community Legal Aid Society was awarded a subcontract from the DATI to provide additional legal advocacy services to individuals being denied **access to** or **funding for** AT devices. Since that time, DLP attorneys and paralegals have focused attention on a number of issues affecting both children and adults in Delaware who need AT.

A priority objective for DLP during the first year was to ensure that school districts consider a child's AT needs when developing the IEP, or individualized educational plan. Throughout this year, DLP staff were successful in advocating for the inclusion of AT devices in the IEPs of several children with special needs. One child was supplied with a Dynavox, a device to augment her spoken communication, through the educational planning process. Other children were assisted in acquiring devices such as a computer with an adaptive keyboard and a laptop computer with special software.

In order to provide the appropriate AT for students, it is essential that the IEP process include an AT evaluation when the student's needs warrant such action. It has become clear to parents, educational personnel, and DATI and DLP staff that specialized expertise is needed in each school district to coordinate AT evaluation, service delivery, and training for staff, parents, and students. DLP is committed to working toward a more systematic, unified approach to the provision of AT-related services.

Other activities under the DLP subcontract from DATI have led to developments for individuals who need Medicaid coverage of AT devices. The efforts of the DLP staff have led to review and clarification of Medicaid's policy on coverage of augmentative and alternative (AAC) devices for adults and children. Other coverage issues have included whether devices such as printers and writing components for children should be covered by Medicaid.

A variety of other issues have been brought to the attention of the DLP AT staff. One of these pertains to the need for special fire alarm and security devices for persons with disabilities residing in apartment buildings. Another concerns the lack of AT for use by residents of group homes.

A second component of the DLP's work with DATI has been to assess whether any follow-up services were needed by those who had previously contacted the Assistive Technology Resource Centers (ATRCs) for assistance. Currently the DLP staff, through the ATRCs, is conducting a survey of health care professionals and providers who work with consumers. The purpose is two-fold: simultaneous with raising awareness about the services provided by DATI and DLP, surveyors are attempting to learn of specific individuals who may have been denied coverage for AT devices. DLP may then be able to offer assistance in pursuing more positive resolutions for these cases.

Opportunities...

AT Seminars Offered by the University of Virginia

The University of Virginia was recently awarded a Rehabilitation Technology Training Grant by the U.S. Department of Education. As part of the grant, the University is offering AT seminars for rehabilitation professionals who desire to improve their AT services to individuals with disabilities. Each seminar will cover a specific area of AT, such as wheelchair seating, mobility, AAC, assistive devices for daily living, and transportation. For each topic area, the seminar will focus on objectively identifying a customer's abilities and needs, developing realistic and measurable goals, establishing an effective plan for meeting the customer's needs, and measuring the outcomes of the service. Most importantly, the seminar will offer a hands-on presentation of the spectrum of assistive devices currently available, with a focus on the features, similarities, and differences of the components and systems. Each seminar will close with a discussion of past and present R&D related to the particular area of AT being addressed to assist the participant in incorporating today's R&D into tomorrow's service delivery.

Upcoming seminars include: Wheelchair Seating and Positioning: Improving Your Services From Assessment Through Follow Up; Understanding the Integration of AT for Functional Mobility; and AAC: Matching Client Needs & Abilities With Technology Using A Features Analysis Approach.

For brochures and additional information, contact the University of Virginia's Division of Continuing Education at (804) 982-5313. The seminars are funded in part by the U.S. Department of Education, Grant Award #U129E50003.

Advancing Careers in the Sciences

One of the newest dimensions of the Applied Science and Engineering Laboratories (ASEL) is the Science, Engineering, and Mathematics (SEM) program, which is designed to increase the number of individuals with disabilities in SEM academic programs and professions. The SEM mentoring program pairs high school students with mentors who are SEM professionals. The students and mentors communicate and work on SEM projects using Internet resources such as e-mail and the World Wide Web (WWW).

The participants in the program all have computer accounts with access to the Internet, some of which were provided as part of this program. In addition to available accounts, the program maintains a computer loan bank. Students accepted into the program, and who do not have the necessary computer equipment, may borrow from the available equipment. Through use of the equipment and a connection to the Internet, students have access to world-wide resources such as university libraries, international research laboratories, and government agencies such as NASA. Students and mentors also par-

(cont'd. on page 12)

Advancing Careers *(cont'd from page 11)*

participate in electronic newsgroups and discussions on topics related to both SEM and disability issues.

Additional mentors and students are being sought to participate in this program. If you are a student with an interest in the sciences or a SEM professional willing to mentor a student, please contact the SEM program. Also, new and used equipment is needed to expand the computer loan program. Your participation or used equipment could make the difference to an aspiring student.

Applied Science & Engineering Laboratories
P.O. Box 269, Wilmington, DE 19899
Phone: (302) 651-6830; FAX: (302) 651-6895
TDD: (302) 651-6834
Email: sem-info@asel.udel.edu
WWW URL: <http://www.asel.udel.edu>

DSAAPD Service Lines

Delaware's Division of Services for Aging and Adults with Physical Disabilities is offering services in transportation, home modification, assistive technology, and attendant services for consumers. Persons who are interested in learning if they qualify for any of the four new services are encouraged to speak to the intake worker at their local DSAAPD office via the numbers below:

New Castle County: (302)453-3820
(800)223-9074

Kent/Sussex Counties: (302)422-1386
(800)292-1515

TDD - Local: (302)453-3837
Toll Free: (800)964-0303

Calendar of Events

Key to Sites

C = Central Site
(302)651-6790

NC = New Castle County ATRC
(302)657-5647

K = Kent County ATRC
(302)739-6885

S = Sussex County ATRC
(302)856-7946

O = Other
see notes below

September 1995

- | | | |
|----|----|---|
| 11 | NC | DigiVox, 9 a.m.-Noon |
| | S | DigiVox, 3:30-4:30 p.m. |
| 12 | K | Intro to AT, 6:30-8:30 p.m. |
| 13 | K | Sign Language & Communication 9-3 p.m. |
| | NC | Simple Adaptations, 2-3:30 p.m. |
| 14 | NC | Dynavox 2 training, 9-Noon |
| 19 | K | Adapted Toy Workshop, 6:30-8:30 p.m. |
| 21 | NC | Adaptive Toys, 10:30-Noon |
| 22 | O | Wheelchair Seating & Positioning: Improving Your Services
From Assessment Through Followup |
| 25 | NC | Introduction to Dynavox Basics, 9-Noon |
| 26 | K | Sensory Impairments, 6:30-8:30 p.m. |
| 28 | C | DATI Annual Statewide Conference, 8:00-4:30 p.m. |
| 29 | NC | Toys for Special Children (V), 10 a.m. |

October 1995

- | | | |
|---|---|---|
| 2 | C | Statewide Advisory Board meeting, 9:30-11:30 a.m. |
|---|---|---|

- 2 NC Advanced Dynavox Workshop, 9-Noon
- 3 K Communication Workshop, 6:30-8:30 p.m.
- 4 O Governor's Committee on Employment of People w/Disabilities Award Luncheon
- 5 C DATI Public Forum in New Castle County, 1:30-3 p.m. and 7-8:30 p.m.
- 10 K Computer Access Workshop, 6:30-8:30 p.m.
- C DATI Public Forum in Kent County, 1:30-3 p.m. and 7-8:30 p.m.
- 11 NC Guidelines for Evaluation & Assessment of AAC Devices (V), 10 a.m.
- 12 C DATI Public Forum in Sussex County, 1:30-3 p.m. and 7-8:30 p.m.
- 19 O Closing the Gap, Minneapolis, Minnesota
- 24 NC Implementing Technology with students w/AAC needs (V), 3 p.m.
- 25 K Computer Basics Workshop, 9-3 p.m.
- 27 O Understanding the Integration of Assistive Technology for Functional Mobility.
- 31 NC Delta Talker Augmentative Communication Device Training, 8:30-4 p.m.

November 1995

- 1 NC Unity-A Language for Life Training, 8:30-4 p.m.
- 8 NC Adaptive Recreation Equipment, 6-7:30 p.m.
- 10 O AAC: Matching Client Needs & Abilities with Technology Using A Features Analysis Approach
- 14 NC Positioning for Activities (V), 10 a.m.
- 22 S AT in the Workplace, 9:30-3:30 p.m.
- 30 NC Aquatec & Minor-Aquatec (V), 3 p.m.

Central Site Activities

For more details or registration information, call the DATI Central Site Office at 651-6790 (phone), 651-6794 (TDD), or 651-6793 (FAX).

Assistive Technology: More Power To You

1995 DATI Annual Conference

Thursday, September 28, 1995, 8:00-4:30 p.m.

Clayton Hall Conference Center, University of Delaware, Newark, DE

Don't miss this fourth edition of Delaware's biggest annual assistive technology conference and exhibition. Keynote presentation, informational sessions, vendor and service provider exhibits, and plenty of opportunity for networking with others in the AT community! See pages 1-3 of the newsletter for more information.

New Castle County ATRC Workshops

For more details or registration information, call the New Castle ATRC at 657-5647 (phone), 657-5893 (TDD), or 657-5649(FAX).

(V) indicates a Video presentation.

Adaptive Recreation Equipment - Let's explore Abledata to search for details on where to purchase adaptive toys and recreation equipment with Carol Barnett of NCC Parks & Recreation.

Adaptive Toys - An introduction to adaptive toys exploring a selection of toys available for all ages. Learn how to operate battery-powered toys with jelly bean and other single switches.

Advanced Dynavox Workshop - Learn advanced features of the Dynavox Augmentative Communication Device with Sentient Systems representative Deb Bassett.

DeltaTalker Augmentative Communication Device Training - Learn the basics of how to operate, program, and customize the DeltaTalker with Prentke Romich representative Nancy Inman.

Digivox Training - Deb Bassett of Sentient Systems will provide an overview on the Digivox Augmentative Communication Device.

Dynavox 2 Training - Learn the exciting features of the New Dynavox 2 Augmentative Communication Device. Training provided through Sentient Systems representative Deb Bassett.

Intro to Dynavox Basics - A presentation by Sentient Systems representative Deb Bassett on the operation and applications of the Dynavox augmentative communication device.

Simple Adaptations - Robert Czetli, Delaware Elwyn's Rehabilitation Engineer, will demonstrate how to make simple adaptations to your computer using joysticks, computer interfaces, and more.

Unity for Life Training - An introduction to Prentke Romich's newest Vocabulary Program "UNITY."

Kent County ATRC Workshops

For more details or registration information, call the Kent County ATRC at 739-6885(phone), 739-6886 (TDD), or 739-6887(FAX).

***Adapted Toy Workshop** - This workshop will introduce attendees to toys available for children with disabilities as well as the many types of ability switches used to access them. This hands on workshop will provide each participant with tools and a kit that includes a toy to be adapted as well as materials for making their own ability switch to be used with the toy. Each person will leave with not only a switch and toy, but an understanding of basic electric circuits and soldering.

***Communication Workshop** - Attendees at this workshop will receive an introduction to the field of Augmentative Communication. A variety of electronic communication devices will be demonstrated, and discussion will focus on choosing the right device, the job of the Speech Language Pathologist, symbol systems, and vocabulary development. Participants will have an opportunity to program the communication devices.

***Computer Access Workshop** - The computer can open new doors for people with disabilities. This workshop will show the many ways in which a person with a disability can access the computer. Forms of access will include alternate keyboards, mouse emulating devices, voice access, Morse code, and single switch access for both Macintosh and IBM and compatible computers. Attendees will learn that anyone can have access to a computer regardless of the severity of disability.

Computer Basics Workshop - If you would like to know the simple facts about computers, this workshop is for you. The purpose of this workshop is to simplify computer ter-

minology and provide you with the basic information necessary to choose a computer and software to meet your needs.

***Intro to AT-** An AT device is any item, piece of equipment, or product system, whether acquired commercially off the shelf, modified or customized, that is used to increase, maintain, or improve functional capabilities of those individuals with disabilities. This workshop will introduce participants to a variety of AT available for people with disabilities. Technology for cooking, dressing, cleaning, bathing and recreation will be demonstrated. Discussion will include applications of AT and related services.

***Sensory Impairments** - Technology for people with sensory impairments includes magnification and Braille for people with blindness and low vision as well as alerting and amplification for people with hearing impairments. A wide range of technology will be discussed and demonstrated, from a hand held magnifier to a talking computer that reads printed material to the user.

Sensory Impairments - An all day workshop focusing on technology for people with sensory impairments. Jim Tyler from Delaware Hearing Consultants will discuss technology available to accommodate those with hearing loss. Ed Jory from the Division for the Visually Impaired will demonstrate equipment for those with blindness or low vision. Ed Salisbury from DATI will demonstrate telecommunications options for those with hearing or speech impairments. CEU credits.

Sign Language & Communication - This workshop will provide an overview of the use of sign language in facilitating language development and functional communication skills for children and adults with speech and language delays. Participants will acquire a basic sign language vocabulary of 200-300 signs.

*Evenings through Kent County Parks & Recreation. Cost: \$15

Sussex County ATRC Workshops

For more details or registration information, call the Sussex County ATRC at 856-7946 (voice or TDD), or (302)856-7296(FAX).

AT in the Work Place - Attendees at this workshop will learn the many ways in which the workplace can be made accessible for people with disabilities. Equipment demonstrations will range from an electric stapler to a voice activated computer. Seating, ergonomics and prevention of repetitive strain injuries will also be discussed.

DigiVox - Introduction to this augmentative communication device from Sentient Systems.

Other Activities

AAC: Matching Client Needs & Abilities With Technology Using A Features Analysis Approach

Understanding the Integration of Assistive Technology for Functional Mobility

Wheelchair Seating and Positioning: Improving Your Services From Assessment Through Follow Up

For brochures and additional information, contact the University of Virginia's Division of Continuing Education at (804) 982-5313.

Closing the Gap Conference

For more information contact Closing The Gap, P. O. Box 68, Henderson, MN 56044, (612) 248-3294.

Governor's Committee on Employment of People w/Disabilities Award Luncheon

- Contact Division of Vocational Rehabilitation, 302-577-2850



DATI Throughout the State...

New Castle County

*Delaware Elwyn
321 E. 11th St.
Wilmington, DE 19801-3499
(302)657-5647; (302)657-5893 (TDD)*

Kent County

*Easter Seal of Del-Mar
Kent County Community School
Carver Rd.
Dover, DE 19901-2716
(302)739-6885; (302)739-6886 (TDD)*

Sussex County

*Easter Seal of Del-Mar
Delaware Technical & Community
College
Rt. 18, P.O. Box 610
West Building, Room 320
Georgetown, DE 19947
(302)856-7946 (voice or TDD)*

The AT Messenger is published bi-monthly by the Delaware Assistive Technology Initiative.

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