

CONFERENCE EDITION, 2010 "DBMAT: Making Connections"

38th Annual Family Conference ~ October 15-17, 2010 ~ Camp John Marc

~~ Spend the weekend with world scholar, Dr. Jan van Dijk \sim October 15^{th} - 17^{th} 2010

DBMAT is honored and excited to bring you world renowned expert in deafblindness, Dr Jan van Dijk for our 38th.

Dr. van Dijk has pioneered the field of deafblindness and has presented all over the world on this subject. Here is what his website says about him:

"I have been involved in the field of deafblindness for the past 50 years, as a teacher, as a researcher and, above all, as an advocate for the rights of people with deafblindness to live full, meaningful lives." Dr. Van Dijk

He has developed curriculum, theories and assessments that have transformed the way we work with and think of people who are deafblind.

Here is what a colleague, Dr. Amy Parker says about him.

"Dr. van Dijk has had a profound influence on the development of our field. His approach to assessment and interaction with students opens up a world of possibilities for communication, concept development, relationships, movement, and play. Dr. van Dijk has left an indelible imprint on thousands of professionals, family members, and children because he teaches us how to listen, observe, respond, and relate in new ways." Dr. Amy Parker

Come and join DBMAT as we hear from Dr. van Dijk in an atmosphere of learning, playing and making connections along the way....

"All children can learn, but it is our responsibility as educators and parents to discover how they learn best." Catherine Nelson, Clinical Instructor of Special Education, University of Utah, See/Hear newsletter, Winter 2002, "The van Dijk Approach to Child-Guided Assessment"

TSBVI's website (<u>www.tsbvi.edu</u>) and NCDB (<u>www.nationaldb.org</u>) have many references to Dr. Van Dijk and his work. Enter his name in the search field in either of these sites.

~~ Things to Consider Before You Register ~~

We all have the best of intentions when making plans to attend an event such as our conference. Here are some things we ask you to keep in mind:

- 1. REGISTER EARLY!!!!
- 2. Contact your DARS case manager about assistance for fees and travel expenses.
- 3. If you need to cancel, please call Christine IMMEDIATELY!
 We understand things unexpectedly come up. You help us by telling us as soon as you can so we can adjust meals, sleeping arrangements, and day care needs. We also may be able to allow another family to attend in your place and they will need as much time to prepare as possible.
- 4. REGISTER EARLY!!!!
- 5. Are you ready to come and have fun?
- 6. Do you really want to miss having fun and Dr. van Dijk??
- 7. REGISTER EARLY!!!!

Questions? Call Christine: 281-370-8195 Steve: 512-336-7859
Positive Connection: 432-264-6780 Rosa: 915-595-3853 (Spanish Speaking)

Want to know how to become a member of DBMAT? To do so, contact C.C. Davis (972) 490-9677 voice/tty/vp; ccfutbol@aol.com

WE LOOK FORWARD TO SEEING YOU!





38th Annual Family Conference ~ October 15-17, 2010 ~ Camp John Marc

Notes from the Conference Planning Committee:

This weekend is co-sponsored by the Deaf-Blind Multihandicapped Association of Texas (DBMAT), Texas Department of Aging and Disability Services (DADS), Texas Department of Assistive and Rehabilitative Services (DARS-DBS) and Texas School for the Blind and Visually Impaired Deaf-Blind Outreach. DBMAT appreciates this support of families. The DBMAT Conference Planning Committee is diligently working to bring about a relaxing, fun-filled, learning weekend for all of our conference participants in a pleasant rustic environment. This conference is designed for families of children & adults who are deaf-blind multidisabled, deaf multidisabled, blind multidisabled and the professionals who serve them.

Please read all the enclosed information, fill out and return all necessary forms by September 15th, 2010 to our Conference Registrar: Christine Givens 22910 Briarhorn Dr., Spring, TX. 77389

If your child/family member is a client of the Department of Assistive and Rehabilitative Services, (DARS), Division for Blind Services, please contact their Program Specialist prior to registration.

Conference contact numbers are: Christine: 281-370-8195 Steve: 512-336-7859 Positive Connections Line: 432-264-6780 Rosa: 915-595-3853 (Spanish Speaking)

Business Meeting

DBMAT's Annual General Membership and election meeting will be held during this conference weekend on Sunday, October 17, 2010 at Camp John Marc. According to DBMAT's by-laws, the DBMAT general members should be notified in advance of the general membership meeting about the nominees for the upcoming Board of Director vacancies. The Nominating Committee, appointed by your president, presents the following nominees for the 2010-2012 terms:

Vice President - Cyndi Hunley Member-At-Large - Christine Givens Secretary - Melanie Knapp Member-At-Large - Gina Sotiropoulos

Member-at-Large - Robbie Caldwell

Other nominations from the floor will be accepted until 5:00 PM on the Saturday before elections. A short description of all nominees' relevant experience will be presented prior to voting. Only paid members of DBMAT can vote. So become a member today!! **************************

DBMAT Vision: Quality intervener services are provided to all deafblind individuals lifelong. **Method:** DBMAT will work with Texas State Agencies and schools to increase the availability of skilled intervener services.

Some of the activities of DBMAT are supported in part by the Hilton-Perkins Program of the Perkins School for the Blind in Watertown, MA. The Hilton-Perkins Program is funded by the Conrad N. Hilton Foundation of Reno, NV. DBMAT appreciates this support.

For Your Information

(Please read carefully and keep for reference)



Each year, DBMAT is pleased to recognize outstanding members with the following awards.

Christian Knapp, The Great Motivator Award – awarded to a deaf-blind individual Everett Bryan Award – awarded to a professional who serves in/with deaf-blindness. Olivia Cruz Award – awarded to a family who has done a lot for deaf-blindness.

Please make your nominations by September 25, 2010. To do so, contact C.C. Davis (972) 490-9677 voice/tty/vp; ccfutbol@aol.com or Wayne Thompson (325) 235-8253; deewaynethompson@aol.com) or Edgenie Bellah (512) 206-9423; bellahe@tsbvi.edu).



IMPORTANT: Forms

Pre-registration by the <u>deadline of September 15th</u>, <u>2010</u> is required in order to attend this learning weekend. The Conference Registration Form must be filled out by both the families and the professionals who plan to attend. **The Camper Vital**

Statistic Form must be filled out on both sides by families for each child/family member (disabled & siblings) you plan to bring and have listed on the registration form. (Please make copies of this form, front & back, for all your campers.) All campers must be accompanied by a family member or guardian. If your child/family member is a client of DARS, DBS, please clear your travel reimbursement & registration fee with their Program Specialist before registering for the conference. Note: If you plan to bring a nurse, attendant, or any individual who is not a family member to care for your disabled child/family member during the weekend, please be sure to include the individual's name and phone number on the DBMAT Camper Vital Statistic Form. A background check is required on anyone caring for your child/family member who is not a family member.

On-Site Check-In

Onsite check-in is required on Friday Night, between 6 - 10 P.M., for all participants planning to stay on the campgrounds. In order for families to complete the intake process, you must plan to arrive on site <u>after 6 P.M.</u> and <u>prior to 10 P.M.</u> In consideration for the other families, check-in volunteers, childcare workers and nurse, this ruling must be courteously followed. There will be a sandwich/snack buffet supper available for everyone between these hours. ***Please note child care will not be available until 8p.m.*** This will allow all volunteers to check in and be available for campers.

Accommodations

Camp John Marc, located at Morgan near Meridian, Texas, is a lovely campsite with air-conditioned cabins. Plan to share the ten-bed cabin with others. We try our best to match cabin occupancy comfortably for all participants. If you choose to stay elsewhere, your room accommodations are at your own expense. Rooms, meals and childcare are furnished onsite for families. Families are encouraged to opt for the 24-hour respite care available. Rooms and meals are provided to professional participants onsite.

Creature Comfort

Although there are sleeping cabins with A/C, this is a campsite! Camp John Marc is accessible with a single designated vehicle parking area. Drop-off area is available in the front of the main buildings. There is no outdoor lighting ~ please bring flashlights to maneuver after dark. Bring pillows, sheets, blankets, towels, face cloths, soap, shampoo, casual clothing and closed-toe shoes for yourself and each of your family members. (Pack each camper's belongings separately.) Bring an alarm clock for your awakening. Shower sign-up sheets will be available in each adult cabin. We start our activities early each morning with a family & friends breakfast served in the dining hall. Bring any other special items you or your campers' need, particularly their medications and instructions, toys, napping stuff, etc.



Art Exhibit - "Open to All"

The ART Exhibit is open to everyone who would like to enter! It is time to pull out those creative ideas or pieces you have in whatever art form and DISPLAY them for others to experience. Whether the form: PAINT, SCULPT, KNIT, CROCHET, MOSAIC, DRAW, OR BUILD YOUR ART.....WE WANT IT! All art will be displayed Saturday in the dining area. Your creations will also be showcased and you can donate your exhibits to the LIVE AUCTION on Saturday night, if desired, otherwise please be responsible for taking it

home.

AUCTIONS ~ Silent and Live

Now is the time to contact your local merchants, neighbors, co-workers, school chums, friends and family to request donations of new and good used items for our annual auction fund-raisers. Those that have attended these events with us before know there will be many great bargains available for purchase and bidding. Please assist us by **gathering and bringing** several items with you to donate to our auctions. DBMAT appreciates your support. Fun for everyone!

Kid Kamp/Childcare

While participating in the conference, parents & guardians are encouraged to place all their children/family members with our child care workers for fun activities, excitement and care throughout the conference activity time. Parents can begin checking in campers at 6pm on Friday. Childcare is available from 8pm Friday until after lunch on Sunday afternoon.

Three options are available:

- 1. Infant Day Care Infants and children 3 years or younger have supervised activities with toys and outdoor fun. Children will sleep with their parents/quardian in their assigned cabins.
- 2. Day Activity Kid Kamp 4 years and older participant in group activities such as ropes challenge course, arts and crafts, cooking, nature walk and fishing. Campers will be cared for during conference activities and will sleep with their parents/guardian in their assigned cabins.
- 3. 24 hour Kid Kamp 4 years and older participate in group activities and stay overnight with peers. Girls and boys sleep in separate cabins and are supervised by adults. The cabins for Kid Kamp are within walking distance of the adult cabins.

Direction Signs

Camp John Marc has posted signs along the way from Morgan. Morgan is about 7 miles north of Meridian and 30.9 miles south of Cleburne on Texas Highway 174. DBMAT signs are also posted on these country roads. A detailed map is included in this Conference Newsletter.

Deadline to receive Registration Forms and Camper Vital Statistic Forms by DBMAT is Saturday, September 15, 2010.

Questions? Call Christine: 281-370-8195 Steve: 512-336-7859
Positive Connection: 432-264-6780 Rosa: 915-595-3853 (Spanish Speaking)



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38th Annual Family Conference & Workshop October 15-17, 2010

Agenda at a Glance

-Tentative-

Friday: Arrival & Check-in

Saturday:

8:00 – 9:00	Breakfast	
9:00 – 9:45	Welcome & Introduction of Agency's represented	Paul Welch & Steve Schoen , DBMAT Representatives of the DADS Medicaid Waivers, TSBVI Outreach, HKNC National Center, DARS.
9:45 – 10:35	Keynote Presentation	Dr. Jan van Dijk
10:35 – 10:45	Break	
10:45 – 11:45	Keynote Presentation Continued	Dr. Jan van Dijk
11:45 – 1:00	Lunch	
1:00 - 1:50	Group Photo	C.C. Davis
1:50 - 2:00	Break	
2: 00 – 3:00	Keynote Presentation Continued	Dr. Jan van Dijk
3:00 – 4:00	Awards, Committee Updates and Social/Free Time	(Snacks and soft drinks provided)
4:00 - 5:00	Free Time	
5:00 - 6:00	Dinner	
6:00 - TBD	DBMAT – Family Fun Activities	(In the Barn-Covered Pavilion)
8:00 - TBD	Auction	(In the Saddle Room)

Sunday:

8:00 – 9:00	Breakfast	Meet Your Neighbor –Texas Style
9:00 – 9:45	DBMAT Business Meeting	DBMAT Board Officers with support from
		TSBVI and DBS
9:30 – 9:45	Break	
9:45 – 11:15	Breakouts: Van Dijk, Estate Planning,	Dr. Jan van Dijk – Final Thoughts
	Fathers, Texas Medicaid Waiver	June Griffith – Estate Planning
	Programs, and All about DARS-DBS	Wayne Thompson - Fathers
	(Children to Independent Living	DADS Representative - Waivers
	Program)	DARS Representative
11:15- 11:45	Closing Remarks	Steve, Paul, Wayne and Bunch

Camp John Marc's phone # is (254) 635-8811. See you there in October!

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REGISTRATION FORM

~ Please print in ink all information that applies ~

Family Information	<u>.</u>					
Adult Names						
Street Address		City	Zip	0		
Home Phone	Work	Phone	Mobile Phone	z		
E-Mail Address						
Name of Camper with	Disabilities		Age	_ Sex		
☐ Visually Impaired	□Hearing Ir	mpaired □Other_				
Name(s)of conditions	syndromes					
These Siblings will als	o attend:					
Name	AgeSex	Name	Age	Sex		
Name	AgeSe	x Name	Age	Sex		
 Sleeping Arrangements: □ Yes! I / We will be using the sleeping facilities at Camp John Marc. □ No, I / We will be staying off the camp site at my / our own expense. □ As an adult, I have a serious sleep anomaly or dysfunction which might disturb others or that requires medical observation by the nurse. 						
*From 6:00 to 10:00 On Site Check-In, Cal Buffet Snack/Supper Night and you must ar	oin Assignment and Social Tin	ts, Conference Pack ne with others. (<i>We</i>	et Pick-up, Child C	are Introduction		
I / We plan to arrive of Number of people for	at meals: Friday	(P.M./A.M.) on / Saturday_	Sunday	·		
Be sure to fill out th	e other side (of this form, too.=	⇒			

REGISTRATION FORM -Page 2-

Assistance Needed:

As a family member, I request (please check one of the following Spanish Interpreter	ıg):	
☐ Sign Language Interpreter		
□ No Interpreter is needed for our family		
 As a family member, I request mileage reimbursement for tra 	vel.	
☐ As a professional interested in participating in the conference that childcare/ travel reimbursement are for families who have disabilities and that I will be responsible for my own room and	ve members v	
Registration Information:		
Registration Fees	# People	\$ Amount
\$ 30.00 per each immediate family member		
\$ 50.00 per each extended family member		
\$ 75.00 per professional		
Totals		
 NOTE: If you have an open case with DBS, please contact your Progra assistance. Our DBS Case Worker is: 		r financial Phone
NOTE: We encourage all members to attend. If other assistance is not avaitable for direct family members upon determination of eligibility contact DBMAT Positive Connection Line at 432-264-6780.		•
Method of Payment:		
□ Check - Please make checks payable to DBMAT.		
□ State is Covering Expenses		
Return all forms with registration fee to: Christine Givens-DBMAT Conference 22910 Briarhorn Dr	Spring T	X 77389

Registration Deadline Is September 15, 2010

Space is limited so send in your registration early to reserve your places!



DBMAT CAMPER VITAL STATISTIC FORM

Information for Child Care Workers

Please make as many **copies** as you need and fill out **both** sides of this form for **each** camper (individuals with disabilities and siblings) you have registered as attending our family weekend **with** you. **Each camper** must have pertinent information submitted to us by September 15, 2010 to ensure an enjoyable time for all.

Ple	ase Print Clearly In I	ink:				
			(Accompanying camper/attending conference) (if more information on your child is needed)			
Ple	ease check one of the	following:	☐ Disab	led 🗆	Sibling	
Ple	ease check one of the	following:	☐ Male		☐ Female	
Ple	ease check one of the	following:				
		•	•		with toys and outdoo gned cabins.	r
	crafts, cooking, na	participate in group a	. Campers i	will be cared fo	allenge course, arts an or during the conferenced and cabin.	
	females sleep in se		e supervise		ht with peers. Males f. The cabins for the	
Ple	ease check only if appl	icable:				
	This camper who is dattendant/individual		_	•		
Ple	ease check one of the	following:				
	Yes! This camper	can participate in all	camper ac	tivities.		
	No! This camper	can not participate ir	the follow	ing activities: _		
Pla	ease check all that apply	My camper will hav	e with him/l	nor•		
	Wheelchair/stroller	☐ Cane		Communicat	on Device	
	Hearing Aid	■ Nebulizer		Other		
	Glasses	Suction Machine	ne 🗆	Other		

Questions? Call Christine: 281-370-8195 Steve: 512-336-7859

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Be sure to fill out the other side of this form, too.⇒

DBMAT CAMPER VITAL STATISTIC FORM -Page 2-

Please provide all information about <u>each medication</u> this camper takes: Please bring medication in the prescribed bottles/containers with correct instructions.

Name of Medication	Dosage Given	Time Given	Special instructions	
Please list <u>every</u> phys	ical, medical, and mento	al condition of this camp	ner (include recent surg	ı eries):
1.)		4.)		
2.)		5.)		
3.)		6.)		
To assist this camper	in enjoying the weeke	nd, I / We offer the follo	owing suggestions & hi	nts:
If there is a major promeeting, activity or ca	bin site for assistance.	arding this camper, plo	ease seek me / us ou	
PLEASE CHECK IF CHIL			DB WAIVER	<u> </u>
unless otherwise note	n for this child/family ned on this form, and do	• •	n all camper/respite ac John Marc, DBMAT, a d.	
(signed)			(dated)	
	nember, during this w		ur family's activities, es our names, if appropri	
(signed) All information i	s otherwise confidentia	al and is held only for t	(dated) he purposes described	l.

Please carry this map with you for reference as you travel. Camp John Marcs' ph # is (254) 635-8811.

CAMP JOHN MARC

From Ft. Worth:

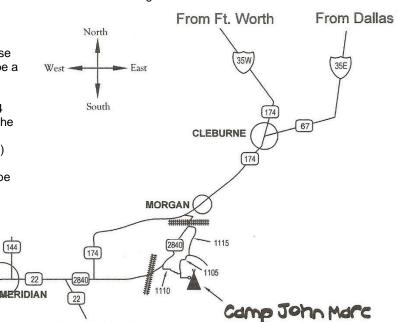
- Go South on I-35W to Burleson/Cleburne, exit Hwy 174 South
- 2. Stay on Hwy 174 going through Burleson, Joshua and into Cleburne (15 miles from I-35W)
- Continue past the courthouse in Cleburne
- Follow Hwy 174 for 30.9 miles to Morgan
- Turn left at the Camp John Marc sign in Morgan which is the next street past the flashing yellow light
- Go 2/10 of a mile to "T"
- Turn right, go 1/10 mile 7.
- Turn left past the railroad tracks (look for Camp John Marc sign)
- After traveling 1.4 miles, use caution over the low water bridge (no
- 10. Continue another 3.6 miles to "T" (look for Camp John Marc sign)
- 11. Turn right and go 1.5 miles to stone Camp John Marc entry gate

- Go South to US 67
- 2. Just before Cleburne, exit Business 67
- At the courthouse in Cleburne, turn left on Hwy 174 South
- Follow Hwy 174 for 30.9 miles to Morgan
- Turn left at the Camp John Marc sign in Morgan which is the next street past the flashing yellow light
- 6. Go 2/10 of a mile to "T"
- Turn right, go 1/10 mile 7.
- Turn left past the railroad tracks (look for Camp John Marc
- After traveling 1.4 miles, use caution over the low water bridge (no rails)
- Continue another 3.6 miles to "T" (look for Camp John Marc
- Turn right and go 1.5 miles to stone Camp John Marc entry gate on left

From Abilene, Midland and El Paso:

- Go I-20 East to Eastland exit
- Go right on Hwy 6 to Meridian
- Turn left at Hwy 22 and continue past courthouse and all blinking lights (Hwy 22 to Hillsboro will be a blinking light, DO NOT TURN TO GO TO HILLSBORO)
- Follow the 2-lane road (2840) past the Hwy 174 intersection, railroad tracks, and all the way to the Camp John Marc sign (2-lane road will end)
- Turn right on old asphalt road (County Rd 1110) and follow it to the "T" in the road
- Turn right and Camp John Marc front gate will be further down on the left

From I-20 @ Eastland



From Hwy 36_22

@ Hamilton

From Austin, San Antonio and Laredo:

- Go North on I-35 towards Waco
- Just South of Waco, exit Loop 340 / Hwy 6 heading West
- 3. Stay on Loop 340 / Hwy 6 over Lake Waco and continue Hwy 6 to Meridian
- 4. Turn right on Hwy 22 to Meridian and continue past courthouse and all blinking lights (Hwy 22 to Hillsboro will be a blinking light, DO NOT TURN TO GO TO HILLSBORO)
- 5. Follow the 2-lane road (2840) past the Hwy 174 intersection, railroad tracks, and all the way to the Camp John Marc sign (2-lane road will end)
- 6. Turn right on old asphalt road (County Rd 1110) and follow it to the "T" in the road
- Turn right and Camp John Marc front gate will be further down on the left

From Waco, Bryan, & Hwy 290 @ Hempstead

From I-35 @ Hillsboro

& I-45 @ Corsicana

Austin Option:

144

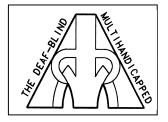
- 1. Take 183 North out of Austin. .
- 2. When 183 hits 281 follow San Antonio directions below.

San Antonio Option:

- 1. Go 281 to Hamilton.
- Turn right onto Hwy 22.
- Stay on 22 to Meridian

From Houston:

- Go I-10 West to Sealv
- Turn North on Hwy 36 to Hamilton
- Turn right on Hwy 22 to Meridian and continue past courthouse and all blinking lights (Hwy 22 to Hillsboro will be a blinking light, DO NOT TURN TO GO TO HILLSBORO)
- Follow the 2-lane road (2840) past the Hwy 174 intersection, railroad tracks, and all the way to the Camp John Marc sign (2-lane road will end)
- Turn right on old asphalt road (County Rd 1110) and follow it to the "T" in the
- Turn right and Camp John Marc front gate will be further down on the left



Deaf-blind Multihandicapped Association of Texas (DBMAT) 909 Mountain Park Drive Big Spring, TX 79720 432-264-6780 (voice & fax) NON-PROFIT U.S. POSTAGE PAID MIDLAND, TX 79711 Permit No. 10

Conference, 2010 Edition

Contents:

- Notes from Planning Committee
- Roads to Camp John Marc Map
- For Your Information
- Child Vital Statistic Forms
- Registration Form

Deadline: September 15, 2010 Space is limited so send in your registration early!!



"DBMA7: Making Connections" October 15 – 17, 2010

Space is limited so send in your registration now!

(When copying this conference newsletter for others, please include all pages and information.)