

# Aphasia Center of California

Volume 13 Issue 1 ♦ Spring 2010

## Making A Very Special Book Connection

*“I am prepared to go anywhere, provided it be forward.”*

—David Livingstone

**By Roberta J. Elman, Ph.D.**  
*President and Founder,  
Aphasia Center of California*

The Fall 2009 Aphasia Center of California’s Book Club session had a very special ending—a conference call with the book’s author, Earl Hamner, Jr. Earl is the “real life” John Boy, whose television writing

credits include episodes of the “Twilight Zone,” “The Waltons,” and “Falcon Crest.” It has always been a dream of the ACC Book Club to talk to an author so we were thrilled that Earl agreed to e-mail and talk to our members as they read his book, “The Homecoming.” Here are some of the questions posed by book club members followed by Earl’s answers:

*When did you first start writing? When did you decide you wanted to be a writer?*

**Earl:** I was born to be a writer. I would have failed at any other profession. I wrote a poem when I was six years old and it was published in the Richmond Times Dispatch on the children’s page. It was all about some puppies I did not own, and about a little red wagon, which I did not have, and about the fact that I was wearing a new blue sweater. Considering the fact that I did not own six puppies, that I did not have a little red wagon and that I did not have a new blue sweater, it was rather confusing to my down to earth father who had stopped school when he was in the 2<sup>nd</sup> grade to help take care of his family. It was entirely the work of imagination. So at six I knew I was a writer and proceeded to BE one.

*What show/series did you enjoy writing for the most?*

**Earl:** I can’t really honestly

*Continued on page 2*

### Join our Eighth Annual “Walk to Talk” Raise Funds and Awareness!

**What:** The Aphasia Center of California’s Eighth Annual “Walk to Talk” is a fund-raising event to raise funds for our programs. Our “Walk to Talk” will feature a 1/4 mile and 3 mile untimed walk/run.

For more information and to pledge online, please visit our website:  
[www.aphasiacenter.org](http://www.aphasiacenter.org)

**When:** Saturday, June 26<sup>th</sup>, 2010. The walk will begin at 10:00am.

**Where:** Lake Merritt, Oakland. Walk starts at the Downtown Oakland Senior Center at 200 Grand Avenue.

**How:** Companies and individuals, from walkers with kids to seasoned athletes to people with their dogs on leashes can participate in this event to benefit the Aphasia Center. Help the Aphasia Center by sponsoring an Aphasia Center participant, asking friends and family for donations, or joining us for the walk. Call (510) 336-0112 for more information.

### Inside:

Thanks to Our Donors .. page 2  
Aphasia Center News ... page 3  
ACC Annual Report ..... page 5  
Our Award Winners ..... page 6

**Our Mission statement:** *The mission of the Aphasia Center is to encourage and expand communication and psychosocial well being for those with aphasia. We are dedicated to helping families and stroke survivors understand the ramifications of stroke and aphasia on their daily lives and to improve the quality of life for all those affected.*

## A Special Book Connection



Author Earl Hammer, Jr. with his dog, Peaches

Continued from page 1

answer that question. I have loved every series I have worked on.

Certainly THE WALTONS was a pleasure to write because it was about my family, about memory, about a time in world history that was memorable and crucial. But I also loved writing for THE TWILIGHT ZONE because it was liberating in the sense that you could let your imagination go, forget the rules of drama and invent your own, and most of all because my friend Rod Serling, had invented an entirely new genre of writing for television. One special movie I wrote was actually an adaptation of a book – Charlotte’s Web – the lovely book by E. B. White which is often considered a “children’s book” but deals in the most terrific way with universal themes such as love and sacrifice and regeneration (the very

end is amazing when Charlotte’s children hatch and fly away). We have loved Charlotte and it is an astonishing and remarkable moment to see that she did not die, but lives!

*Is there really a mountain named Spencer? Was it named after someone in your family?*

**Earl:** The mountain I had in mind was one we could see from our kitchen window and it was owned by my Uncle Ernest Norvel. The name Spencer came from my paternal grandmother. Her maiden name was Spencer.

If you would you would like to read more about what I’m doing, you can go to my web site which is [www.earlhammer.com](http://www.earlhammer.com). Once there hit the BLOG button and enjoy!

*Earl, thank you so much for your generosity and for enriching our Book Club!*

## Thank You to Our Generous Donors

July-December 2009

If we have made any errors in this listing, please accept our apologies and contact us at (510) 336-0112.

### IN MEMORY

- Cindy J. Anderson**  
Mary Helen Evans
- Jim Anderson**  
Elaine Ivankovich and Family
- Luanna Blagrove**  
Charlotte R. Nye
- Lucy & Bob Bowen**  
Robert & Brenda Bowen
- Buddy Brock**  
Terry Brock
- Philip T. Clark**  
Barbara Clark

- Judith H. Clark  
Susan Clark
- Jean Crawley**  
Carol Sommers
- Warren Dedreck**  
Ebba Terry
- Carolyn Diller**  
Roy & Elinor Bell
- Jon Eisenson, Ph.D.**  
Elinore & Lawrence Lurie
- Mrs. Fee**  
Roger D. Fee
- Marvin Gerber**  
Sandra Dolan
- Martin Goldman**  
Laureen & David Cohen  
Rita Goldman
- Dr. Paul B. Goldsmith**  
Susan M. Goldsmith & Joseph  
C. Waxman

- Helene Greenspan**  
Lester Greenspan  
Lorraine Michael
- Natalie Hamel**  
William B. Gaillard  
Katerine Hamel-Pleger & Terry  
Pleger  
Lawrence E. Humphrey
- Iste Park Ingham**  
Julie McNulty  
Nancy Park
- Lou Ivankovich**  
Mike Ivankovich  
Joe & Natalie Ivankovich
- Emily Johnson**  
Susan Ewing  
Dale & Alice Johnson
- George Kalkanis**  
Zoe Kalkanis & Janet  
Levenson

- Francis X. Kelly**  
Colette Kelly
- Forest (Doug) King**  
Sheila King
- Lucille Labat**  
Louis Labat
- Herbert Levy**  
Jack Breibart  
Marian Majestic  
Jean & Ken Shelley
- Jeanne McKeown**  
Maureen McKeown
- Ruby Pappas**  
Carol Sommers
- Marie Pastrick**  
Evy & Neil Schiffman
- Betty Pillow**  
Susan Giraldez  
Jack Pillow

Continued on page 4

# Aphasia Center News

**Aphasia** (uh fay' zhuh) n: an impairment of the power to use or comprehend words, usually acquired as a result of a stroke and sometimes from head injury or a brain tumor. More than one million Americans have acquired aphasia.

"Ijenti ferbis..."



## Do You Shop at Lucky, Food Maxx or Savemart?

Lucky, FoodMaxx, and Savemart will donate money to the Aphasia Center of California every time you shop! Just call the Aphasia Center and ask us to mail you a Shares Program card. It's super

## ACC Collaborates with Axis Dance Company

Aphasia Center of California members have had a unique opportunity to learn from professional dancers through collaboration with the Axis Dance Company. The Axis Dance Company is a troupe of disabled and non-disabled dancers who have performed throughout the world. They are collaborating with the Aphasia Center to provide 10 weeks of integrated movement classes at our program site. Judging by the smiles on all the faces, this collaboration has been a definite success! Thank you, Axis!!

simple, doesn't cost a thing, and you don't need to give any personal information. Each time you buy groceries, you just hand your Shares Program card to the clerk, and Lucky, FoodMaxx and Savemart will automatically donate 3% of your total grocery bill to the ACC. So please call us today to get your free Shares Program card and start helping the ACC every time you buy groceries!! To get your Shares Program card, please call us at 510-336-0112.

## Spring Cleaning

Don't forget the ACC when it comes to donating quality items. All money earned from the ACC's consignment program benefits the speech-language treatment programs at the Center. We are looking for quality items throughout the year that can be sold. All quality furniture, costume and fine jewelry, vintage and new clothing, kitchenware, children's books, and collectibles are greatly appreciated. We cannot accept non-working electrical items, computers, or golf clubs. All donations are tax deductible to the extent allowed by the IRS. Please contact Elaine Ivankovich, Program Coordinator, to arrange for drop-off or pick-up at 925-687-9783 or 925-788-6261.

## Are you on Facebook?

Become a Fan of the Aphasia Center of California and help us spread the word!



The Axis Dance class at the ACC

## Thank You to Our Generous Donors

*Continued from page 2*

### Jack Pillow

Patricia B. Partridge  
Doris M. Sanford

### Joseph Fred Pollack

Barbara Hafter & Allan Leader

### Raymond Reid

James McGhee  
Rosalie Reid

### David Sedlacek

Rosalie Reid

### Harold Smith

John & Betty Almquist  
Carolyn Smith

### Nathan E. Smith

Lois Smith

### Dean Stone

Carol Sommers

### John Terry

Ebba Terry

### Frances & Sam Warner

Joyce Goldberg

### IN HONOR

### Patricia Armstrong

JoAnn Cook

### Judi Briano

Terry Brock  
Gail Longworth & Sandy Hill  
Cindi Hadsell Mena  
Andrea Mires  
Good Shepherd United  
Methodist Women  
Diane Walters

### James Carnrite

Jim Hilferty

### Sidney Dommes III

Joseph & Clytia Curley

### Roberta Elman, Ph.D.

George Fogelson  
Michael Kimbarow & Joyce  
Bichler

### Sue Ewing

Holly Tesar  
Terry Brock

### Ira Fabricant

Susan Musicant

### Joy Frederiksen

Lisa Bolivar

### David Giacomelli

Cristin Goldman

### Cathy Harada

Courtney Iwanaga

### Dominique Herrington

Lee Ann Golper

### Ron Hausmann

Robert Adler  
Richard Esbeshade  
Patrick & Eileen Cafferty, Jr.

### Mary Jane Laufenberg

Linda Woods-Humes

### Lisa LeSage

Barbara LeSage

### Olive Libbey

John McCrory

### Jane Logan

Sandy & Connie Waters  
Barbara Le Sage

### Martha Lynch

Don Medley

### Nidhi Mahendra

Ram Mahendra

### Olive Libbey

Marilyn McCrory

### Jane Logan

Connie & Alexander Waters

### Steve Orlando

Catherine Borjon  
Anthony & Lucy Nicolosi  
Paul & Joanie Orlando

### Andrea N. Owens

Andre Owens

### Jim Santanna

Frank Ghiglione  
Mary A. Gibbs  
Chris & Abigail Jensen  
Cesare Marigonda  
Yolanda Northridge & Robert  
McGuinness

June Ogden

Jim Snider

Jim Tallarico

### Philip Tien

Nadine Lau & Mark Lancaster  
Tom O'Donnell  
Dorothy Paik  
Star Pierce & Naya  
Pennington  
Gail Staba  
Jules Wong

### Don Welcome

Deborah Haagensen  
Brigitte Limon  
Anne & Dennis Kohlmeyer

### Vicki Welcome

Anne & Dennis Kohlmeyer

### George Yee

Mike Chin

### DONORS

Anonymous

Betty L. Aceves

Prudence Ashley

Frieda Badal

Narvella Berthia

Mary Boyle, Ph.D.

Howard Brizendine

Caroline Brooks

Elizabeth Bryant

Kathy Burrow

Maura Caraffi

James S. Carnrite

Jack Carroll

Elizabeth Chafcouloff

Nadja Christian

Marc Colbert & Yvonne

Fluehr

Caren Courtney

Freddie Crenshaw, Jr.

Roberta DeHoney

Alexis & Philip Dommes

Sid Dommes & Enid Meyer

Janet & Frank Dompe

Ann E. Dzuna

Richard & Caroline Elman

Laddie Erbele

John Florsheim

Margaret Fox-Kump

Lydia Galvan

Jack & Mari Gilmour

Sbain Hancher

Tom & Carol Hannon

Cathy & Ron Harada

Jane & Earl Hamner, Jr.

Robert M. Harper

Kay Hayes

Fred & Iris Hoblit

Candace Kahan

Norma & Murray Kane

Sophia Kanenwisher

Aaron Kellem

Judith Kneeter

Catherine Larsen

Margaret Laufenberg

Mary Jane & Rich Laufenberg

Don & Jeanette Lee

Ken & Starr Lieber

Jane Logan

Sara Johnson Martin

John Mackinney

Enid Meyer

Molly Milligan & Brad Phillips

Jean Mundy

Anita M. Nella

John & Susan Nelson

Patricia & Doug Olson

John & Mirian Oshiro

Rodger & Jorene Page

Dorothee Perloff

Molly Pong

Jim & Macrina Reed

Jane Robinson

Elaine Russell

Ken & Jean Shelley

Will Starr

Madelyn Stelmach

Dan & Diana Sullivan

Maureen Sullivan

Gretchen & Eric Szabo

Raymond Thiercof

Kingston Tong

George Turner

Norm & Betsy Van Patten

Gordon & Nancie Ward

Norm & Betsy Van Patten

Bill Wong & Mary Lew

Helen Wong

Lynn Yarris

George & Rose Yee

Ruth Yip

Robyn Young, M.D.

Jesse Zeifman

# ACC 2009 Annual Report

## 2009 Services

Total Visits: 4012

Group Communication Treatment  
Visits: 1860

Individual Speech-Language Treat-  
ment Visits: 106

Reading & Writing Classes: 305

Club Aphasia: 694

Fitness & Relaxation Classes: 872

Educational Stroke Group Series: 175

Information & Referral (includes  
phone, mail, and e-mail): 1992

Web site hits to date: 68,600+

## Organization and Corporate Donations

Benefit Associates

Good Shepherd United Methodist  
Women

Kaiser Permanente—Kaiser Founda-  
tion Health Plan, Inc.

The R. H. & Jane G. Logan Family  
Trust

Rodgers Trucking Company

Teamsters' Joint Council No. 7

Teamsters' Local Union #853

Yue Fung Grocery

## In-Kind Donations

Alameda Theatre—Alameda

All the More to Love—Alameda

Arizmendi Bakery—Oakland

Banana Blossom Restaurant—  
Oakland

Bellanico Restaurant—Oakland

Berkeley Bowl Marketplace—  
Berkeley

Blackberry Bistro—Oakland

The Book Tree—Oakland

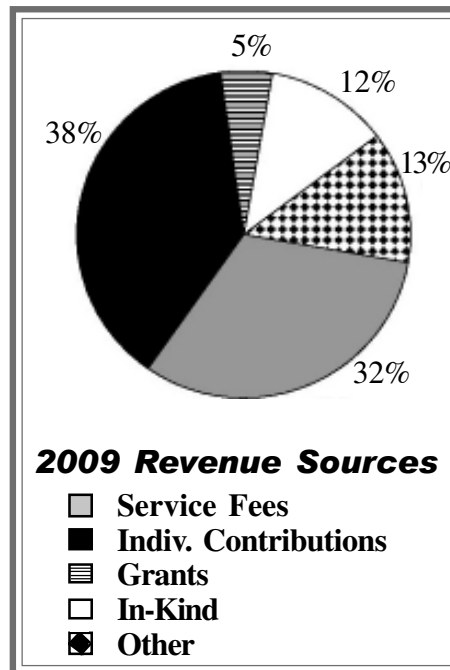
Crogan's Restaurant—Montclair/  
Oakland

El Jarro Restaurant—Lafayette

Francesco's Restaurant—Oakland

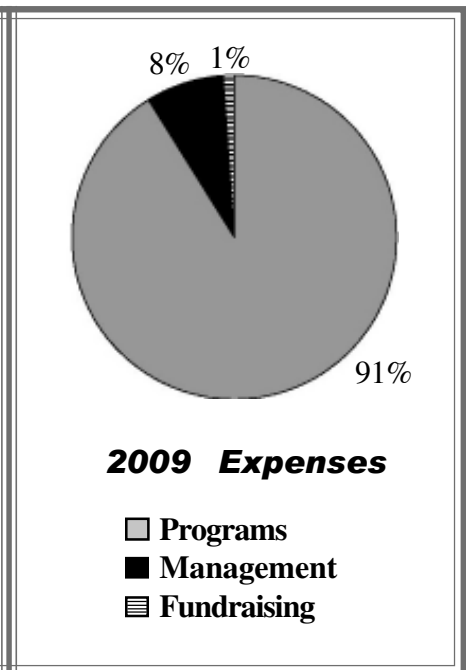
Glenview Florist—Oakland

Italian Color's Restaurant—  
Montclair/Oakland



**2009 Revenue Sources**

- Service Fees
- Individ. Contributions
- ▨ Grants
- In-Kind
- ▣ Other



**2009 Expenses**

- Programs
- Management
- ▨ Fundraising

Jaunty—San Ramon

Lakeshore Café—Oakland

Leah's Closet—Martinez

Marzano Restaurant—Oakland

Natural Grocery Company—El  
Cerrito

Neldem's Bakery—Oakland

Noah's Bagel—Oakland

Pac & Save—Emeryville

Palace Nails & Wax—Oakland

Pastino's Restaurant—Oakland

Peet's Coffee & Tea—Lakeshore/  
Oakland

Pharmaca—Berkeley

Red Boy Pizza—Oakland

The Rising Loaf Café & Bakery—  
Lafayette

Safeway—Alameda

Second to None—Walnut Creek

Svenhard's Swedish Bakery—  
Oakland

Drs. Tennant & Gianni, DDS

Tomatina Restaurant—Alameda

Trader Joe's—Oakland

Ultimate Grounds—Oakland

Whole Foods—Oakland

## Matching Gifts

Bank of America

Charles Schwab

Chevron

Cisco Systems

Genentech

TIAA-CREF

## Donated Professional Services

Speech-Language Pathology Ser-  
vices: Roberta J. Elman, Susan  
Adair Ewing, Angela Lilley

Administrative Services: Roberta J.  
Elman

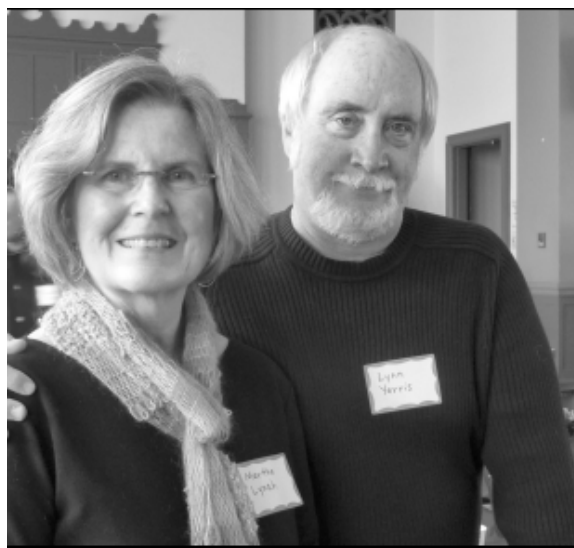
Computer Services: Steven G. Fry,  
Dean McCully

Newsletter Design & Layout: Morris  
Older

## Donated Program Space

City of Oakland, Downtown Senior  
Center

## Our Award Recipients



2009 "Go For It" Award winners Howard Olson, left with his daughter, Donna, and Martha Lynch, right, with her husband, Lynn Yarris

### APHASIA CENTER BOARD OF DIRECTORS

- President—Mary Lew
- Vice-President—Enid Meyer
- Secretary/Treasurer—Robert Lewis, MBA
- Esther Akiba, RPT
- Roberta J. Elman, Ph.D.
- Steve Fry
- Patricia Terry Olson, MPH
- Patricia Santanna

Two Aphasia Center of California members were honored at the 2009 Holiday Party with "Go For It!" awards. These awards are given to members who believe that living fully with aphasia means that you have to "Go for it!"

Our 2009 honorees, Martha Lynch and Howard Olson, have not let aphasia stop them from volunteering their time and talents since their

strokes. They are truly inspiring human beings who are friendly and supportive to everyone they meet at the ACC. Our congratulations to Martha and Howard—thank you for all you do for people living with aphasia!

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

This newsletter is a publication of the Aphasia Center of California

Written and edited by Roberta J. Elman

Design and layout by Morris Older

Return Service Requested

Non-Profit Org  
US Postage  
Paid  
Oakland CA.  
Permit NO. 1714

Aphasia Center of California  
3996 Lyman Road  
Oakland CA 94602-1857  
(510)336-0112  
[www.aphasiacenter.org](http://www.aphasiacenter.org)