MIND MOUSE OPENS DOORS FOR SHARE CLIENTS

In the past, we’ve told you how the engineers at the Center for Rehabilitation Engineering have adapted computer systems so people can operate them by blinking an eye, raising an eyebrow, sipping on a straw, or even shifting their eye gaze.

What’s next? Prof. Cory has seen it and purchased a demonstration model for clients to try.

It’s called Mind Mouse, and using this software/hardware package, a person can control a computer system with little or no perceptible movement.

The device is attached to electrical sensors on a headband worn by a user; the sensors detect electrical signals caused by subtle facial or eye movements and by brain activity. It is not an exaggeration to say that the user can control the computer by “thinking,” since the thinking process can produce a change in electrical activity.

An intriguing concept—Mind Mouse could open doors for people with conditions such as ALS (Lou Gehrig’s disease) or spinal cord injuries that have resulted in paralysis.

Dance was a Wonderful Valentine for SHARE

Three hundred folks celebrated Valentine’s Day with SHARE at the Hawthorne Country Club on February 11. SHARE supporters “rocked the joint” that night, dancing to favorites played by DJ Gene Daniels. There was “a whole lotta shakin’ goin’ on,” as folks of all ages macarena-ed, swing danced, or “slow danced, swaying to the music.”

Two dozen lucky folks went home with prizes donated by generous local businesses, and David Pellerin went home toting a signature Celtics leprechaun basketball autographed by the entire 1999-2000 Celtics squad. Congratulations, David!

SHARE sends out its most heartfelt thanks to Theresa Brum for organizing this fantastic evening, which raised almost $4,000 to support the work of the Rehabilitation Engineering Center. Everything was wonderful—great food, great music, and great company. We extend our thanks to all Terry’s friends who helped her put on this memorable event. Terry repeatedly told us that she couldn’t have done it without them, that they made it all easy for her, and that “I have the best friends.”
SHARE FRIEND AND CLIENT SHARES HIS TRIP TO MEXICO

by Paul Remy

Paul Remy, a Fall River resident, traveled with a group to Mexico last summer to lay the groundwork for a summer camp like Camp Jabberwocky on Martha’s Vineyard. Camp Jabberwocky is a summer resort for children and adults with disabilities. The camp was established in 1953 by an English speech pathologist named Helen Lamb. Mrs. Lamb opened the camp against the advice of the medical establishment, who at that time thought such camps would be detrimental to people with disabilities. But, Mrs. Lamb, who worked at a small clinic in Fall River, MA, knew otherwise. In her native England, camps such as Jabberwocky had proved beneficial to campers, while providing parents with needed rest and vacations from the day-to-day care of their children with disabilities. Paul has been a “Jabberwockian” for 37 years.

Last August, 25 of my friends and I from Camp Jabberwocky journeyed to Oaxaca, Mexico. Our two-week trip was eventful, exploring 1,500-year-old Indian ruins as well as admiring beautiful artwork crafted by highly talented artists. But our reason for traveling to Oaxaca was to create the foundation for a summer place like Jabberwocky in Oaxaca.

During the trip, Jabberwockians met many wonderful people with and without disabilities. They loved our idea for establishing a Jabberwocky-style resort for Mexicans with disabilities. Many of our new friends, especially a group from an organization called Acceso Libre, worked closely and exchanged ideas with us to make plans for the new camp.

The international team also learned each other’s customs through singing, playing games, and occasionally going on day trips together. Some Jabberwockians were fluent in Spanish; however, most, including myself, only understood several words. We are hard at work learning the language.

To be able to officially open the camp’s door in August of 2000, we needed to find an affordable place for 32 people—16 Americans and 16 Mexicans. The Jabberwocky’s spirit introduced us to a woman who owns a hotel in downtown Oaxaca. She agreed to let us have the entire place, with meals included, at a reduced price. Her seven-year-old son who has cerebral palsy will be one of the campers.

Campers and counselors will stay in Oaxaca for a week. Oaxaca is in a lovely, mountainous region. But it is nearly six hours from the nearest beach. This presents a problem, because Jabberwockians enjoy the seacoast. We also discovered that most of our Oaxaca friends have never gone swimming in the ocean. So, plans are under way to locate a place for a week’s stay near the sea.

Oaxaca, like most of Mexico, doesn’t have many services and programs for its citizens with disabilities. In fact, Acceso Libre is one of the few good programs. Most staff members at Acceso Libre have limited physical resources. They teach clients social skills and job training. But, because most clients lack formal education before enrolling (at age 16) in Acceso Libre, they often cannot be taught trades that will enable them to work in society. The organization is also a workshop for those who cannot seek employment elsewhere. The artwork and products made by these folks are sold at Acceso Libre’s store.

In Oaxaca, individuals having severe disabling conditions are often hidden from society. There are even cases where people are left to die when they don’t have parents or guardians. This was almost the fate of a 20-year-old woman we visited. When she had been a year old, her mother had died. Luckily, a friend of the mother had adopted the little girl. The woman, who cannot do anything for herself, requires constant care. She, too, will be attending the new camp.

The camp in Oaxaca is being financed partly from the Katie Johnson Fellowship, established by campers and counselors in memory of a teenaged camper who died unexpectedly in 1992, and partly by generous donations. Plans are currently under way to set up a tax-exempt association in Mexico so that Mexicans can make contributions to help support the new camp.

People interested in helping support the introduction of this camp, which will be called Camp Oaxaca Wacky, can send donations to the current director of Jabberwocky. Make checks payable to the Katie Johnson Fellowship and send to:

Mrs. Gillian Butchman
12504 Rolling Road
Potomac, MD 20854
Grant from Ronald McDonald House Charities Began a Successful Partnership

SHARE and the UMass Dartmouth Center for Rehabilitation Engineering are delighted with the outcome of the partnership we have forged with schools in Fall River, Westport, Dartmouth, Freetown-Lakeville, and New Bedford.

This cooperative was enabled by a grant from the Ronald McDonald House Charities. The grant money provided for 125 computer systems, 5 printers, and 5 BigKeys keyboards to be placed in 20 local schools, spanning grades K-12. In addition, ten individual students were provided with special equipment.

SHARE will continue working with these new clients and hopes to acquire more grant funding to extend the program into more Fall River and New Bedford schools as well as schools in other communities.

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“In the Other Fellow’s Shoes” Offers Insight into Laddie Holt’s Life

Many of you may remember Laddie Holt, one of SHARE’s early clients and a great inspiration to us. In 1988, Laddie published his second book. Entitled “In the Other Fellow’s Shoes,” the short book tells the story of Laddie’s struggles and successes as he grew up facing the challenges presented by his cerebral palsy.

Laddie’s story, what he called his “foot-typed rolls of recollections,” is one of his triumphs over the limitations imposed upon him not only by his physical condition but also by the public’s lack of knowledge about cerebral palsy. Laddie credited his mother for starting him along the road to a less limited life. He wrote:

_If the medical world could do little or nothing to improve your lot in life physically, then your mother would see to it that your mind would not suffer a similar fate. For years she had read to you and despite the moribund prognosis most people gave regarding your mental ability, your mother was convinced you had the ability to learn._

“In the Other Fellow’s Shoes” is lively and full of touching insights. SHARE has copies of this collection of reminiscences and ruminations. We would be happy to send a copy of this book to any donor who requests one. Laddie Holt passed away in 1998, but his indomitable spirit shines through the narratives and poetry in “In the Other Fellow’s Shoes.”

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Do You Shop On-Line?

Now you can shop and donate to SHARE at the same time! Through shop-for-charity Web “malls,” you can help SHARE at no extra cost to yourself. On-line retailers, such as Amazon.com, pay a sales commission to the Internet broker every time one of the retailer’s items is sold through a link to the retailer’s website.

SHARE has registered with CharityMall as one of this cause-related marketer’s nonprofit recipients. A SHARE supporter/shopper can access the CharityMall service by clicking to www.charitymall.com/share. Then the shopper logs in and is given a CharityMall e-mail address. Every time a shopper goes through CharityMall to access one of the hundreds of on-line “stores” working with CharityMall, a percentage of the shopper’s order is sent to SHARE. CharityMall has links to Amazon.com, eToys, J.Crew, Mac Zone, Land’s End, Flowers-by-mail, and many, many more retailers.

Items do not cost any more than if a shopper purchased them directly from the on-line store. The retailers provide this charitable donation and in turn get to advertise at CharityMall. Retailers also see the charity malls as ways to increase their customer base. CharityMall’s policy statement says that it will not provide any shopper’s e-mail address or any personal information to anyone.

Look for a link from SHARE’s website to CharityMall; we’ll be posting it soon. Then you can quickly get from us to the service. In the meantime, click over to CharityMall and see what this service is all about and how you can give to SHARE while buying yourself that barn jacket from Land’s End.
FUN WALK '99 WAS A WINNER THANKS TO A BUNCH OF WONDERFUL PEOPLE

The sun shone brightly on the great folks who came out to participate in SHARE's Fun Walk '99. Though the weather was unseasonably warm, the fall foliage was characteristically bold, making the route through the UMass Dartmouth campus a pleasure to follow.

One hundred and fifty people came out to raise the funds that keep SHARE in the business of providing adaptive computer equipment for children and adults with disabilities.

The major sponsors for this year's walk were Lafayette Federal Savings Bank and radio station WSAR.

Lafayette Federal not only sponsored our snazzy t-shirts designed and printed by Add-a-Graph, but also extended its support by organizing a walk team that challenged other area banks to send teams that would compete in soliciting private donations. The First Federal Savings Bank took up the gauntlet.

The competition was close, but First Fed outraised Lafayette by just $56. SHARE was delighted to have the enthusiastic walkers of both teams bring their spirit and generosity. Our hearty thanks go out to Gerry Hajder of Lafayette and Gerry Gaboriau of First Fed and the wonderful people who comprised their teams.

Many old friends came out to walk or to work at the event. Claire Hartley, who has participated in the Fun Walk previously, walked in honor of Father Frederick Meyers of Fairhaven. (See related story.) Louise Habicht and Geraldine Phipps, faculty members at UMass Dartmouth, have both walked in all SHARE's Fun Walks. They again were among our most successful fundraisers. Other UMass Dartmouth folks joined us either as walkers or workers. We appreciate so much the continued support of these delightful people—Sue Blom, Jane Booth, Paige Gibbs, Joyce Leblanc, Jim Griffith, Susan Leclair, Wendy Malenfant, Robert Helgeland, and Dana Yarborough. We are also indebted to Dean Don Howard, Prof. Donald Mulcare, and Chancellor Jean MacCormack for their support.

Some of our earliest clients have become walkathon mainstays. Linda and Al Texeira again participated, raising a lot of money for SHARE and bringing their special presence to the walk. Paul Remy not only participated in the walk, but also garnered us some much appreciated publicity in the university's student newspaper. Steve Resendes and his family joined us again.

And no Fun Walk would be complete without Patty Swift, who has been helping us for many years. We are so grateful for these folks who inspire us.

Local businesses again provided us with prizes and donations. Grundy's Lumber of Westport donated a super toolbox full of great tools. Lees Supermarket of Westport donated a gourmet food basket for our raffle. Ann & Hope and B.J.'s Wholesale Club provided donations. Gift certificates were donated by Figueiredo's Greenhouse, Not Your Average Joe's, White's of Westport, the Mattapoisett Inn, Freestone's, the Bridge Street Cafe, T.K. O'Malley's, the Ground Round,

The Lafayette Federal Savings Bank walkathon team brought its spirit and a challenge to the '99 Fun Walk.

The First Federal Savings Bank met Lafayette Bank's challenge and outraised them by a mere $56. Thanks to both teams for making our Fun Walk a success!
and TCBY. Towne Donut Shoppe donated the dozens of freshly baked treats that welcomed walkers in the morning.

The day was hectic for all of us, but we hope walkers enjoyed the event—the bingo game, the poker hand, the refreshments, the terrific music provided by DJ John DiCarlo, the sand art, the pumpkin painting, and, most of all, the satisfaction of helping others. We loved seeing everyone, both old and new friends.

Special thanks to our fabulous staff of volunteers—Dick and Barbara Bushnell; Phil, Claudette, Ben, and Sarah Viall; Kenneth and Laura Viall; Tom and Liz Viall; Gladys Wilde; Ella Botelho; Paul Chatterton; Rick, Nonie, and Margie Walder; Bill and Jean Holen; Betty Ann Francis; Derek Catabia; Jeff Carvalho; Joyce LeBlanc; Susan LeClair; Jim Griffith; Dyan and Cara Beller; Pat Cory; Jamie Prata; Nancy Szenher; Mandy Pereira; Jen Ryan, Noelle Texeira; Liz Alcock; Jeanne Carrier; Barbara Bachand; Linda Vandal; and ’99 event coordinator Dorothy Ryan. Without these people, there would be no Fun Walk.

We hope to see everyone next year for the millennium Fun Walk.

Again, thank you to each and every one of you who made Fun Walk ’99 a success—a $22,000 success!

Next Fun Walk is Sunday, October 15, 2000!

The Legacy of Father Fred

Unless you live in Fairhaven, you might not know Father Frederick Meyers, the former pastor of St. Joseph’s Church in Fairhaven.

Father Fred, as he was known to the many people to whom he extended a loving hand and compassionate ear, is one of SHARE’s most dedicated supporters. Through his acquaintance with Don Mulcare, a faculty member at UMass Dartmouth and former Board of Directors member at SHARE, Father Fred learned of our mission.

To help SHARE further its goals, Father Fred became a walkathon participant. And what a fantastic blessing he was to the annual Fun Walk! Over the four years he walked the route at our event, Father Fred raised thousands of dollars for SHARE’s kids. In 1998, he alone was responsible for almost one quarter of our walkathon proceeds.

In 1998, Father Fred announced that this was to be his last walkathon. He saw changes in his life coming in 1999. In 1999, in honor of Father Fred’s devotion to our cause, Claire Hartley, another of SHARE’s dedicated walkers, agreed to serve as Father Fred’s “designated walker.”

Dozens of Father Fred’s sponsors from past years sent in pledges for Claire, contributing $870 to the proceeds for Fun Walk ’99.

Father Fred has since moved to Texas, where he is still offering a loving hand and a compassionate ear. We wish him the best and know we are not alone in missing one of the kindest, humblest gentlemen we have ever met.

The following wonderful folks made walkathon pledges to honor Father Fred:

Cynthia Almond
Raymond Barbero
Lisa & Kenneth Beury
Ann & Peter Cadieux

Janice & Anthony Ferreira
Gail Gendron
Alexander Gonsalves
Good Samaritan Hospital
Claire Hartley
Laura & John Hergenhahn
Carleton Lucas
Kathleen & Thomas Marshall
Evelyn L. Martin
Nancy & Donald Mulcare
Frances & John Palko
Sandra Phillips
Joan Pickup
Jennifer Pires
Julia & Raymond Pires
Jeannette Pittsley
Irene J. Poirier
Andrea & Peter Proffetty
Mr. & Mrs. Robert Ratajak
Gail & Art Rodrigues
Elizabeth & Larry Savery
Elsie J. Smith
Margaret Ann Tobias
Lisa & Joseph Uranko
Fourth Annual Auto Show a Success for SHARE

The '99 Auto Show and Flea Market was a hit with all who attended. As every year, the cars were fantastic showpieces, and the crowd was ready for a good time.

Crazy Ed Barnaby delighted the audiences with his sensational musical and comedy performance. Many thanks to the Bristol County Street Rod Association for making this event happen. The show raised nearly $4,000 to help SHARE provide adaptive computer systems for children and adults with disabilities.

Special thanks to Joe Ribeiro for all his work on this annual autofest.

SAVE AUGUST 20, 2000 FOR THE 5TH ANNUAL AUTO SHOW!

WAYS OF GIVING

How can you help a favorite charity? Let us suggest the ways. From the annual pledge to the one-time sharing of a boon to a gift of property, you can help an organization grow.

1. The simplest of all gifts is the outright gift of cash or property. This gift is tax deductible (up to 50% of adjusted gross income).

2. Another easy-to-do donation is the gift of long-term capital gain property. Just transfer to the charity the possession and any title to it. The gift is fully deductible (up to 30% of adjusted gross income), and you pay no capital gains tax on the appreciation of the property (for example, stock in a company).

3. A Charitable Remainder Unitrust (CRUT) is another way to help a charity. Set up a CRUT for an organization you wish to support. The CRUT receives the gift (whether cash or property) and pays back to the donor or a beneficiary a return of at least 5% of the annual value of the trust principal, either for life or for a period of up to 20 years. If the principal’s value increases, so do the payouts. You can add subsequent donations to the CRUT, and at the time of giving, you can take the current value of the charity’s remainder interest as a deduction (subject to limits based on percentage of adjusted gross income). The CRUT can pay out tax-exempt income. And, if appreciated property is the principal of the CRUT, you do not have to pay capital gains taxes.

4. With a Charitable Gift Annuity, a donor can transfer a gift to a charity and receive back a lifetime guaranteed (or joint lifetime) income. The income is partly tax-free when received. If the gift is of appreciated property, some of the capital gain is spread out over the donor’s life expectancy. The donor can deduct immediately the value of the property given, minus the present value of the income from the annuity.

5. By giving or willing matured savings bonds to a charity, you can avoid paying tax on the interest accrued by them. If you would like more information about how to make use of savings bonds without triggering the earned income tax, SHARE will be happy to get you a copy of the UMass Planner that explains how savings bonds can become your gift to a charity.

Turn your car into a computer for a disabled child. Donate your car to SHARE—running or not! Free pick-up. Call SHARE for details.

FEEDBACK? SEND US E-MAIL AT share@umassd.edu

Visit us at our website to read about SHARE and the UMD Rehabilitation Engineering Center! www.share.umassd.edu
This year's holiday appeal was the most successful ever—almost $20,000 was raised! Thank you to the many generous people who are making it possible for SHARE to provide the opportunity for independent communication to more children and adults with disabilities.

The following donations were received between November 1999 and February 23, 2000.

**SPECIAL THANKS**

American Baptist Churches  
Mr. & Mrs. Richard Arthur  
Michael Baldwin  
Margaret Bellucci  
Gertrude & Carleton Burr  
Jeanne F. Carrier  
Catherine Mary Cetta  
Betty & Walter Chang  
Dr. & Mrs. Paul Cherninsky  
Richard C. Connor  
Michael Duarte  
Empress Foods, Inc.  
Fall River Five Cents Savings Bank  
Fleet Bank  
Dr. Charles Gromley  
Janet & Brian Harrison  
Evelyn & Lowell Hughes  
Peggy Schultz /Frederick Jones  
Dr. Wolfhard Kern  
Linda & William McCabe  
Janice McKeachern  
Mr. & Mrs. Franklin Neville  
A. Neil Pappalardo  
Mr. & Mrs. Normand Savoie  
St. John's Lodge #1 Prov.  
David Thomas  
United Congregational Church  
Little Compton, RI  
Freida & Bob Wallstein  
William Walsh  
Linda & Richard Warren  
Leonard Worsley  

**IN MEMORY OF**

Bart Albert  
Albert LePage  
Ethel W. Allen  
Barbara & Richard Bushell  
Anonymous  
Deborah Amoral  
Heather & Philip Amoral  
Ruth Robert  
Donald Amoral  
Linda A. Amoral  
Arthur F. Anderson  
Richard S. Anderson  
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Mary Barboza  
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Editors: Jo-Ann Bettencourt & Karen Pragana
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SHARE Foundation
University of Massachusetts Dartmouth
285 Old Westport Road
North Dartmouth, MA 02747-2300

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