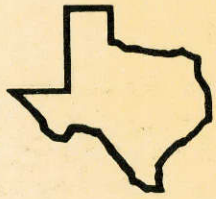


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TRC news & views

TEXAS REHABILITATION COMMISSION

Vol. 5, No. 2

Austin, Texas

February, 1983

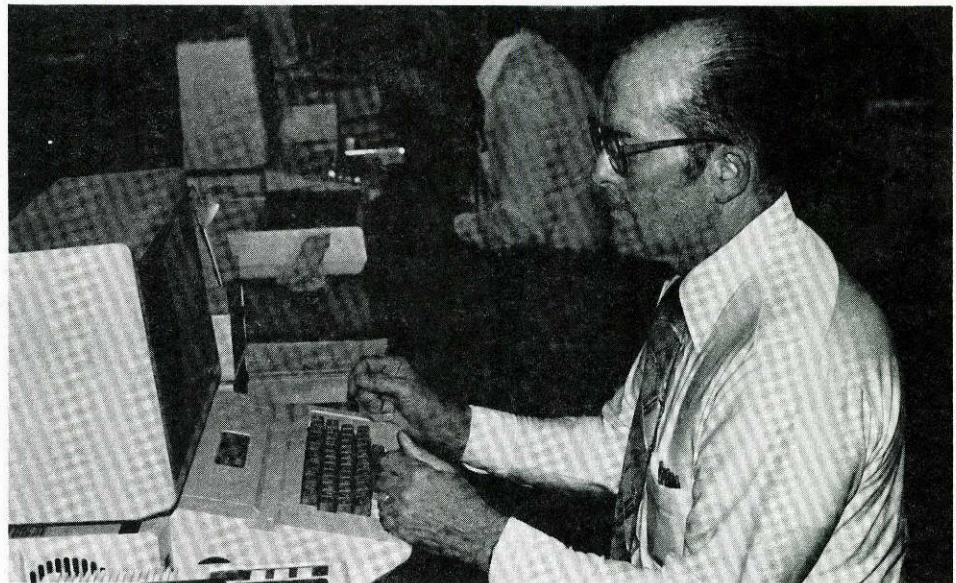
TRC Employees Learn Apple Computer Use

Thirty Texas Rehabilitation Commission employees from around the state learned how to use Apple computers in January and December as part of a special training course.

"We must have done a good job because all of them got back to their offices and set up the computers without any problems," said Randy Jennings, training coordinator who chaired the Apple Training Committee.

Participating in the training sessions were six regional directors, representatives of each region who will be operating the computers and central office staff.

The decision to offer the training sessions was based on a recommendation by a six-member Apple Planning Committee which was appointed



Ralph Hasten, Houston regional training officer, runs a software package as part of the recent Apple training.

by James L. Jackson, deputy commissioner for administrative and support services. The committee was charged with planning the introduction

of 12 new computers in the Central Office and all the field offices.

The group later became
Cont. on p. 8

Survey Shows TRC Employees Pleased with Supply System

A recent survey on the effectiveness of the Texas Rehabilitation Commission's purchasing and supply section showed that employees are generally pleased with the new computerized Supply Ordering System.

"All the responses were very positive," said Milton Turnipseed, director of purchasing and supply.

The surveys, sent to 39 administrative technicians around the state and answered by 26, asked for evaluations on performance of the warehouse and the purchasing and supply division.

Questions ranged from length of time for processing supply requisitions to a general overall rating of the operation.

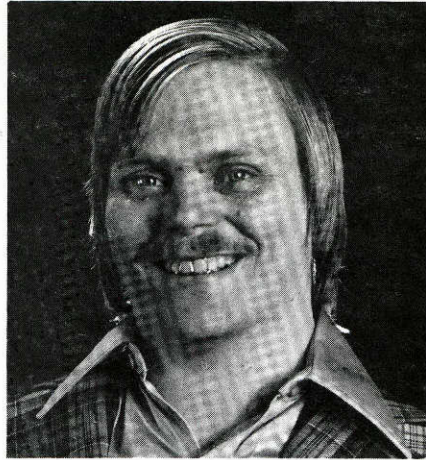
Turnipseed said the survey was the first taken since the new method of ordering supplies by computer was put on line in early 1982.

Responses to the questionnaire submitted by the administrative technicians in September were generally more optimistic than responses to a similar survey

Cont. on p. 8

Frieden Honored by U.S. Jaycees

Lex Frieden, the new chairperson of TRC's Consumer Consultation Committee, has been named one of the 10 Outstanding Young Men of America by the United States Jaycees. Last year, Frieden, 33, was selected one of Five Outstanding Young Texans for 1982 by the Texas Jaycees. The 33-year-old director of the Independent Living Research Utilization project at The Institute for Re-



Lex Frieden

habilitation and Research in Houston was selected for the honor for his "outstanding contributions to improving the quality of life for disabled persons in the community, state and nation, and for his personal achievement in expanding their opportunities for independent living."

Frieden became the new chairperson of the Consumer Consultation Committee in January when Bob Blase' term as chairperson expired.

TRCA Seeking Counselor of the Year

Nominations for the Texas Rehabilitation Counseling Association's Annual Counselor of the Year Award are being accepted through Feb. 15.

Counselors to be nominated are required to have an active caseload and be employed full-time to counsel and assist handicapped people toward a goal of greater independence. Nominations will be considered without regard to employment setting or professional affiliation.

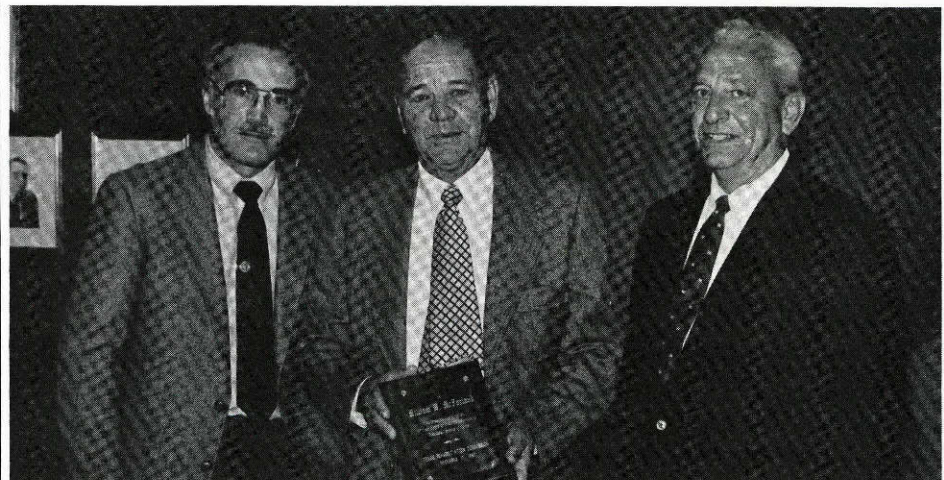
More information about the criteria for nominations can be obtained by calling Jim Howard, awards and scholarship chairman, at 214-692-1665 or TEX-AN 831-5510.

TRC News & Views is published by the Texas Rehabilitation Commission for distribution to its employees and retirees throughout the state. Inquiries may be addressed to Kaye Beneke, Public Information Office, Texas Rehabilitation Commission, 118 E. Riverside Dr., Austin, TX. 78704; or telephone (512) 445-8745, (Tex-An - 887-8745).

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TRC counselors Michelle S. Hillman, Houston Field Office Northeast (center left), and Diane Garcia, Garland Field Office (right), were honored by TRC Board members at their meeting in December. Hillman and Garcia made TRC history recently by receiving "perfect audits" from program auditors. Auditors reviewing 10 active case samples of each counselor's caseload found no deficiencies in either caseload. Program auditors say the accomplishment is even more noteworthy in the fact that both counselors had served as counselors for only approximately two years at the time of the audits. Among those congratulating Hillman and Garcia were Commissioner Max Arrell and Board Chairman George H. McCullough (right).



The TRC Board also recognized former Regional Director Bill McFarland who recently retired after 25 years of service to TRC. McFarland (center) whose retirement was effective at the end of August, 1982, joined the Commission in 1957 at McKnight State Hospital. He was promoted to regional director in 1971.

A.B. Dick Donation Assists TRC Client

A recent December afternoon found Lydia Brew racing across the Texas Southern University campus on her three wheeled bicycle. She barely had time to stop and talk with her TRC counselor, Rosa Broussard. This was an important day for Lydia and she was in a hurry to change into her dressy clothes.

Within an hour, Lydia had returned to the TSU administration building to join TRC and TSU officials who were already gathering for the "big event". On a table in the center of the room sat the object that was generating such excitement--a brand new word processor.

The A. B. Dick Corporation decided to donate the word processor to Lydia after receiving an inquiry from Dr. Ronald Hull, special assistant to the vice-president in personnel services. Hull works closely with disabled students at the college and thought the computer might assist Lydia in her work towards a degree in journalism.

Lydia, 24, has cerebral palsy. The disability hinders her ability to type quickly and accurately. Typing as-



Lydia Brew (middle) learns to operate her new word processor with the help of Rosa Broussard, her counselor (left), and Dr. Ronald Hull, special assistant to the vice president in personnel services for Texas Southern University.

signments on a standard typewriter and making the necessary corrections on paper was so time-consuming that Lydia had some difficulty in keeping up with her school work.

With the word processor, Lydia can type one line at a time and correct each line before the words are actually printed on paper. Once all the lines have been entered into the word processor, she simply pushes one button and the computer prints the entire page. Lydia's smile lit up the room as she sat down to

demonstrate the procedure.

The word processor is now installed in Lydia's dorm room. When she completes school, the computer will be used to assist another TRC client attending TSU, as per A. B. Dick's request.

Broussard said that Lydia is now undergoing training on the word processor which was scheduled for the Christmas holidays.

"She's very excited about it. I think she's going to do great with it. The machine is the thing she needed," Broussard said.



Chris Petrison

DD Awareness Campaign Starts

Petrison Joins PIO Office

As part of a new public awareness effort, the Governor's Planning Council for Developmental Disabilities has hired a new public information officer.

She is Chris Petrison, who is working under the supervision of Kaye Beneke, public information officer for the Texas Rehabilitation Commission.

Petrison is charged with putting out a newsletter, council brochures and coordinating public information for the council. She is also working on

TRC public information projects with Beneke.

Petrison comes to the council with eight years experience and has previously been employed as an editor of "The Austin Light," a weekly publication geared for Austin's Mexican American community; a reporter for the "Austin American-Stateman," a daily newspaper; and a reporter for the "Round Rock Leader," a community paper in Round Rock.



MPRO Develops Positive Relations with the Texas Medical Community

A relatively new department in the Disability Determination Division is developing a positive relationship with the Texas medical community.

The Medical/Professional Relations Department was founded in July, 1977, by Deputy Commissioner Dale Place with the goal of creating an awareness of the disability program in the medical community and increasing the number of medical consultants on a consultation panel.

It has been successful in both areas.

In 1972 DDD had less than 600 physicians on its consultative examination panel. By 1981 the number had increased to 2,419. Also, in 1982 almost 84,000 consultation examinations were purchased by DDD, a process involving constant monitoring and evaluation.

The increase in physicians and examinations reflects the general growth of DDD where the number of Social Security

disability claims has jumped from 3,637 in 1956 to 148,438 in 1982.

Monitoring consultation examinations sometimes results in the discovery of deficiencies. When they are found, members of the Medical/Professional Relations Department contact the physicians and seek corrective action. As the result of negative evaluations, over 400 consultants were removed from the consultation panel in the past 18 months.

DD staff members who are involved in the evaluation process are Dr. Albert Vickers, chief DD medical consultant, and Don Oelschlegel, consultative examination coordinator. Dr. David Wade, as TRC administrative medical consultant, provides guidance and assistance in the fields of psychiatry and psychology.

The first medical professional relations officer was John Wright. Today there are five, representing the state's service regions. They are

Jack Thurman, West Texas; Pat Gibbs, North Texas; Wright, Central Texas; June Kendrick, Southeast Texas; and Larry Cummings, South Texas. W.O. Smith serves as the mental health/mental retardation liaison officer on a state wide basis.

Also helping are 16 medical records technicians in eight cities. Bertha Palacios serves as clerical supervisor with a staff of five in San Antonio. Dee Campos is an administrative technician in Austin. Supporting the staff are secretaries and stenographers.

Besides recruiting new physicians for the consultative panel and monitoring consultation examinations, the Medical/Professional Relations Department also investigates and resolves complaints lodged against medical consultants; makes on-site inspections of consultants who are considered "key providers" based on volume and complexity of services performed; and works to retain good consultants.

DDD Retiree Dies

Roy Speck, a recently retired Disability Determination Division employee, died Dec. 30 at the age of 64. Funeral services were held at First Baptist Church of Austin followed by burial at Forest Oak Memorial Park in Oak Hill.

Speck worked for the quality assurance section of the Disability Determination Division when he retired Aug. 3, 1982. He was employed by the Texas Rehabilitation Commission in September, 1966.



Ventriloquist Shari Lewis and her sidekick Lambchop took time to entertain some of their younger fans between performances at the recent telethon to raise money for the West Texas Rehabilitation Center in Abilene. Lewis and Lambchop joined a host of celebrities including Vicki Carr; Bill and Susan Hayes; Helen O'Connell; Rex Allen, Sr.; Rex Allen, Jr.; Slim Pickens and others to raise more than \$500,000 for the center in early January. Lambchop and rehabilitation center client Beth Hurley became fast friends in their few minutes together backstage.

From the Field

SPLISH...SPLASH

Mary Valentini, supervisor of Houston's West Central Field Office, is "right proud" of the folks in her office who successfully completed the recent JOG RAMA for the Southwest Wheelchair Athletic Association. Jean Anderson, Arlene Arauza, Bob Dybala, Cynthia Valentini (yes, Mary's daughter), Laura Palomares and Diane Hicks shivered and slogged through 35 degree temperatures and heavy rains to complete 15 to 20 laps each. Larry Smith, counselor in the University of Houston Field Office, also participated in the event. Together, TRC folks who accepted the JOG RAMA challenge raised more than \$1,000 for the wheelchair athletic association. When all the proceeds are in, JOG RAMA organizers hope to have netted some \$20,000.

FRANKIE FINISHES FIRST

Congratulations to Frankie Watson who was recently selected Region IV's new administrative officer.

Watson, formerly the supervisor of Houston's Central Field Office, replaces David Tipple who left the Commission to pursue other career opportunities. Interviews to fill the vacancy created by Watson's promotion were taking place at this writing.

HOLIDAY CHEER

When it comes to helping others, TRC folks are among the best as several acts of kindness over the recent holiday season prove.

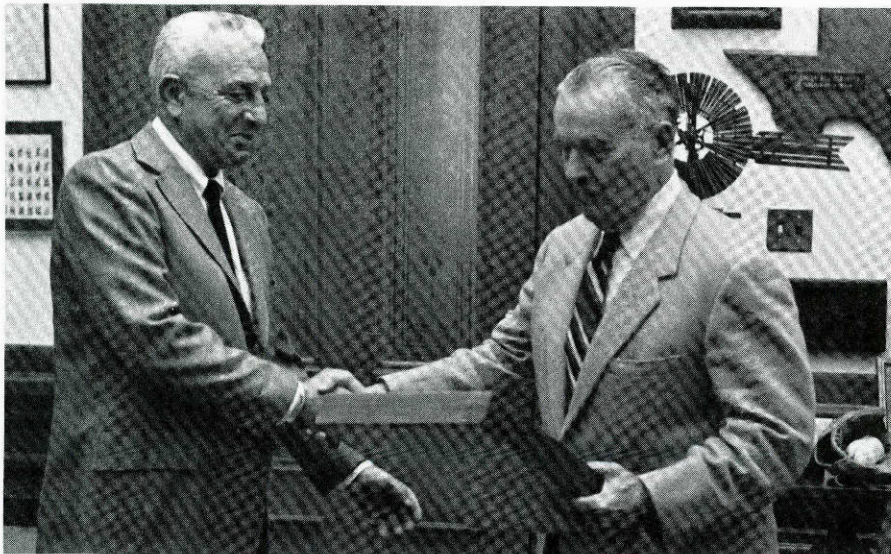
At Thanksgiving, 11 TRC clients were recommended by their counselors to receive Thanksgiving baskets complete with turkey and all the trimmings. Money to purchase the baskets was raised by the El Paso Area Subchapter of the Texas Rehabilitation Association and the Texas Association of Rehabilitation Secretaries, also associated with TRA. The funds were raised through a "wishing well" project which is sponsored by TRA. (Wishing wells are those boxes and jars you

see in many restaurants and stores where customers can contribute their spare change to a worthy cause.)

Instead of a Thanksgiving basket, one TRC client received a \$25 check to be used toward payment of his utility bills. In all, 12 clients benefited from the generosity of the caring rehabilitation community in El Paso.

★★★

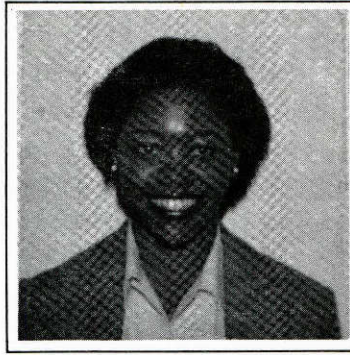
At Christmas, some 20 families in the Beaumont/Port Arthur area enjoyed food, clothing and toys donated by the Golden Triangle Rehabilitation Association, also affiliated with TRA. Families selected to receive the holiday goods were nominated by employees of TRC, the local Department of Mental Health and Mental Retardation, CETA and Baptist Hospital. To be eligible to receive the goods, a member of each family had to be involved in a rehabilitation program. In all, more than \$700 was spent to make the holidays happier for these families.



TRC Board Chairman George H. McCullough recently presented former Governor William P. Clements with a special plaque signed by the chairmen of the 12 largest state agencies who comprise the State Agency Management Effectiveness Council. The plaque expressed the SAMEC members' appreciation for the opportunity to meet with the Governor on a regular basis to discuss the problems facing state agencies and ways to operate state government in an efficient, effective manner. Clements established the SAMEC meetings as a part of his Texas State Government Effectiveness Program which he developed shortly after taking office in 1978.

Rehab 480 : Job Skills for Disabled Students

(Editor's Note: The following article was written by TRC client Evelyn M. Townsel, a journalism student at North Texas State University.)



Evelyn M. Townsel

"It's special, because they're special," said Barbara Jungjohan, organizer and coordinator of REHAB 480, an experimental course at North Texas State University in Denton.

Funded and promoted by the Texas Rehabilitation Commission, REHAB 480 is a three-hour credit course in career development, designed especially for handicapped and disabled students.

"Help in career development is a course all students need," said Jungjohan, assistant dean of students at NTSU. "REHAB 480 allows TRC clients to start early in developing job skills. It provides them with job experience in their major. We all know how hard it is to find a good job, and the disabled already have one strike against them. This class, hopefully, will help even the odds."

The class met for the first time as a workshop in the fall of 1980. Jungjohan said that was the vital period because if the class didn't prove beneficial to students, it wouldn't receive the grant needed to fund it.

Jungjohan wrote a letter to TRC requesting a grant that would assist in developing the class, and it was approved.

Seven students signed up for the class-workshop the first semester, along with a volunteer supervisor from TRC and a graduate intern

instructor. "It was a good start for a new class, but enrollment had to improve or the class would never be accredited."

So, more information about REHAB 480 was targeted to non-clients, for example, REHAB majors. "REHAB is a senior level course, therefore, it would meet a three-hour, advanced elective requirement," said Jungjohan.

There were 12 students enrolled in the class spring of 1981. TRC successfully recruited some Texas Woman's University students, too.

"Oak Street Hall, Center for Rehabilitation Studies at NTSU supplied us with help. Their interns worked with the class consistently," Jungjohan said.

"A joint effort between the class workers and the Cooperative Education Program proved to be beneficial in completing internships. Cooperative Education offered the students internships in their major fields, and was helpful in finding actual jobs for interviews, observation and work," Jungjohan said.

Jungjohan said the class was involved in several special projects. Once, the students were videotaped in a job interview, which allowed them to watch themselves. The exercise was to help them see themselves as an employer might see them.

"In another project the students were asked to do an information interview. They were to notice and learn about any company's attitudes. Realizing that the interview only involved getting information made it easier for the students. They didn't feel that normal pressure which is usually experienced. The exercise gave them a chance to build their confidence, and to make professional contacts," Jungjohan said.

Jungjohan said she was pleased with the outcome. That summer, one student was placed with Xerox, and half of the class had summer employment.

In the spring of 1982, the class was turned over to Dr. Thomas Evenson, assistant professor of rehabilitation studies, and was offered for the first time as a three-hour credit course.

"I've always seen a need for this kind of class, and when offered the instructor's job, I felt I could benefit from the direct involvement," Evenson said.

"We're all handicapped in some way, especially in developing our life careers. We're all limited as far as the future is concerned, and all we can do is try to prepare for it," Evenson said.

"This class is special because it gives the disabled student time to invest in his future," he said.

REHAB 480 isn't a typical classroom situation. "We spend our class hours differently," Evenson said. "We have structured the class to meet a group's need, as well as an individual. Two hours a week are spent in large

First Seminar Held in January:

TRC Offers Wheelchair Maintenance Program

A wheelchair maintenance and repair series, which uses both a slide show and printed materials, has been purchased by the Texas Rehabilitation Commission from the University of Texas.

The series will be used to teach wheelchair users around the state how to maintain and repair manual and electric wheelchairs.

The first TRC wheelchair maintenance seminar using the six tape module slide show series was held Jan. 27-28 at Texas A & M for John Greening, vocational rehabilitation counselor, his clients and their attendants. Also attending was LaFon Eary, administrative technician with the Temple supervisory unit. Instructors at the seminar were John Flowers, training officer, and Dwight Lindsley, regional training officer.

The Center for Occupational Curriculum Development at the University of Texas developed the series which covered a range of information for wheelchair users from general wheelchair maintenance to minor repair jobs.

Tom Word, director of staff development, said the series should help decrease the amount of money TRC spends for repair of clients' wheelchairs.

Manuals on wheelchair maintenance, developed as part of the series, will accompany all wheelchairs provided to TRC clients in the future, Word said.

Anyone interested in presenting the maintenance series to his clients should contact his regional training officer.

groups and one hour is spent in a lab component, which is either one-on-one or a small group," Evenson said.

"They're learning to share everything they have in common. They're learning to be individuals together," Evenson said.

The class performance is measured by the student's evaluations of the class and number of job placements.

"Students' comments are valuable to us because we're here to please them. Most are strongly in favor of the class as far as curriculum concerns. We teach them resume writing and interviewing, and one-third of the semester is spent meeting employers," Evenson said.

REHAB 480 meets only in the spring. Spring semester 1983 will be its third session.

"We have to keep enrollment at 10 or the class will be closed. We can't let that happen. There's been so much time spent toward organizing it, and the students really like it. It would be a shame to lose it," Evenson said.



Six members of TRC's Consumer Consultation Committee were honored with certificates of appreciation recently upon completion of their terms on the committee. Bernie Cantu, San Antonio; Earl Day, Houston; Bob Dickson, Midland; Marianne PUNCHARD, Mart; Trudy Putteet, Lubbock and Dr. Janis Roan, Dallas received a special thanks from Commissioner Max Arrell for their parts in helping to serve disabled Texans as members of the advisory committee. In addition, the Commissioner presented Bob Blase, outgoing committee chairperson, with a special plaque recognizing his leadership of the committee. Blase will continue to serve as a committee member. Cantu, PUNCHARD and Putteet were reappointed to the committee by Commissioner Arrell. **BACK ROW:** (left to right) Marianne PUNCHARD, Commissioner Arrell, Dr. Janis Roan and Bob Blase. **FRONT ROW:** Bernie Cantu and Trudy Putteet. (Earl Day and Bob Dickson were not present for the photograph.)

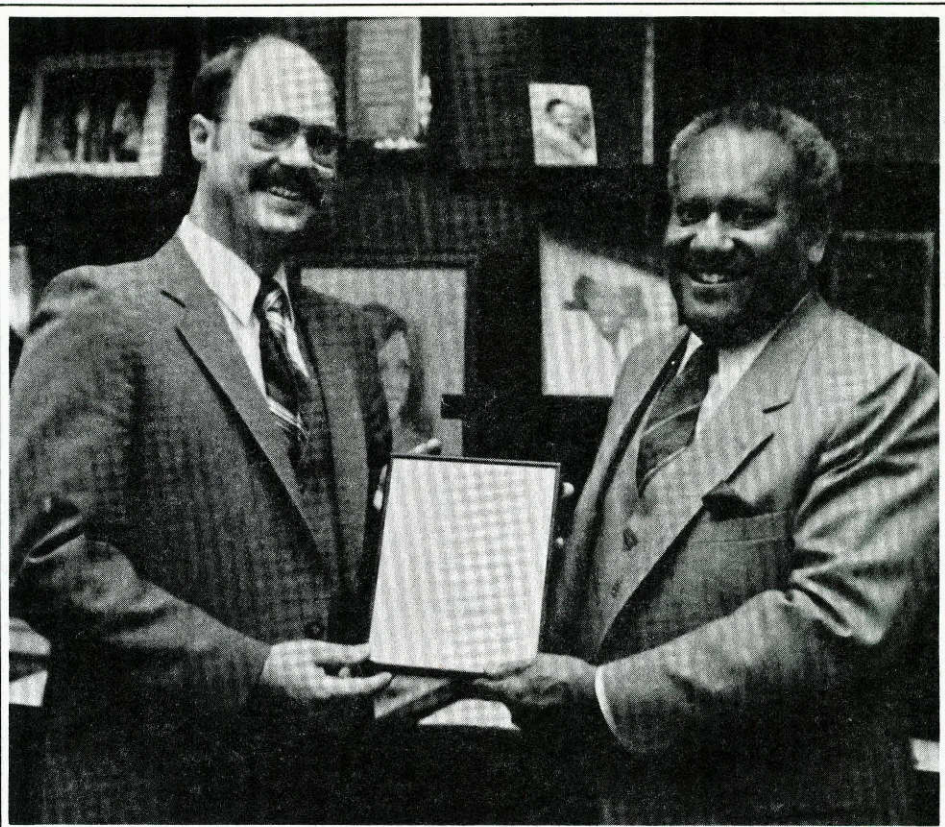
Apple from p. 1

the training committee which instructed computer use to the people who were going to be operating the machines.

Committee members who served as trainers were Jennings, Staff Development; Vicki Heydron, Administrative Services; Carolyn Parks, Planning; Harry Amon, Budget; Rick Phelan; Programs and Bill Nash, Information Services.

Participants in the Apple training learned how to install the computers, operate them and perform minor maintenance.

The new Apple computers will be used as management tools in the regional office and will help planning service delivery, record keeping, budget analysis and word processing. In the Central Office, use will depend on the needs of the individual departments, Jennings said.



Ken Vogel, director of the Houston Regional Office, (left) presents Dr. Leonard O. Spearman, president of Texas Southern University, a certificate of appreciation for the university's dedication to disabled students and for their cooperation with the Texas Rehabilitation Commission.

Survey from p. 1

taken in January 1982, before the new computer operations went into effect, Turnipseed said.

For example, 100 percent of those who responded in

September said that supply requisitions for clients were handled effectively and in a timely manner. That compared to 88 percent in January, 1982.

The overall rating of the

supply ordering system in the recent survey was 8.1 compared to 7.2 percent in January, 1982. The rating was based on a scale of 1 to 10 with 10 being the highest rating possible.

Retirements

Marjorie Booker, Supervisor, Wichita Falls Field Office, employed April 1, 1943, retirement effective Jan. 31, 1983.

Mary Ann Schneider, Stenographer III, Disability Determination Division, employed July 1, 1970, retirement effective Dec. 30, 1982.

Harry Wilbanks, Counselor II, Dallas West Field Office, employed Sept. 1, 1966, retirement effective Jan. 31, 1983.

Calendar of Events

<u>FEBRUARY</u>	<u>Activity</u>	<u>Sponsor</u>	<u>Location</u>
3 - 5	Spinal Cord Injury Management Continuum	T.I.R.R.	Houston
6 - 11	Managers of Managers Training	TSMDC	Lago Vista
6 - 11	Management Training for Supervisors	TSMDC	Lakeway
8	Orientation for Central Office Personnel	TRC	C.O., Austin
9	Planning Process Training for Executive Committee	TRC	Austin
13 - 18	Managers of Managers Training	TSMDC	Lago Vista
17 - 18	Cardiac Rehabilitation Workshop	TRC	San Antonio
27 - 3/4	Managers of Managers Training	TSMDC	Lago Vista
28 - 3/1	Phone User's Training	TRC	C.O., Austin

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