

Alzheimer's Poetry Project

Sparking memories with poetry



- Home
- On-Line Training
- About APP
- What is Alzheimers?
- Start an APP
- Affiliates APP
- Sparking Memories
- Nutreme Hoy
- Coming Events
- On Reading Poetry
- Research APP

» **Online Resources**

- Contact APP
- Poets APP
- Poems APP
- Early Stage Workshops APP
- Spanish Language Programming APP
- German Language Programming APP
- Hebrew and Yiddish Language Programming APP
- Advisory Board APP

Tax deductible donations may be sent to:

Brooklyn Arts Council
 c/o Alzheimer's Poetry Project
 55 Washington Street
 Brooklyn, NY 11201-1074
 All donations fund
 poets to work
 with people living
 with Alzheimer's disease.

Text size: A **A** **A**

*Once upon a midnight dreary, while I
pondered weak and weary,
Over many a quaint and curious volume
of forgotten lore,
While I nodded, nearly napping, suddenly
there came a tapping,
As of some one gently rapping, rapping
at my chamber door.
'Tis some visitor,' I muttered, `tapping
at my chamber door -
Only this, and nothing more.'
-Edgar Allan Poe, The Raven*

Online Alzheimer's Resources

[The Alzheimer's Poetry Project blog](#)

The APP blog features writing created in the project, as well as general news and information on other art projects.

[APP YouTube Channel](#) Videos on using poetry to connect with people living with dementia, interviews with APP poets and more.

[National Council of Certified Dementia Practitioners](#)

NCCDP ALZHEIMER'S DEMENTIA STAFF EDUCATION WEEK FEBRUARY 14TH TO 21ST.

Sign up top right of home page for notification to begin downloading in November.

The free tool kit includes:

1. Free Power Point In-services (Many topics) for Health Care Staff which includes pre test, post tests, hand outs, answers, in-service evaluation and in-service certificates.
2. Nurse Educator of the Year Nomination Forms
3. Nomination Forms for NCCDP Alzheimer's and Dementia Staff Education Week Contest
4. Proclamations for Senators and Mayor
5. Letters to the Editors Promoting Your Program
6. 97 Ways to Promote Alzheimer's and Dementia Staff Education Week 2011

From the book...



Photo credit: Daniel Barsotti

The Humor

One of the men had been a Lieutenant Colonel, he had spent 30 years in the army, when I read a poem he doesn't like, such as a rap version of "The Raven," he gives me the thumbs down, when he approves he gives me a thumbs up. When I read a sad poem he plays an imaginary "air" violin.

[More from the book »](#)

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7. Resources and Important Web Sites

www.nccdp.org

[Time Slips](#) is a creative storytelling method, originally designed to be used with people with dementia and their caregivers, it was founded in 1998 by Ann Basting. Basting is one of the leaders in bringing creativity and culture chance to the healthcare industry. She is currently Executive Director and Associate Professor of theater at University of Wisconsin Milwaukee's Center on Aging and Community.

More on Basting and her books at her blog, [Forget Memory](#)

Poet, professor and editor Susan Schultz uses the blog format to write about her mother's dementia.

[Dementia Blog](#)

[Story Corps](#) has a memory loss initiative.

[Reading Shakespeare has dramatic effect on human brain.](#) This by study Professor Philip Davis shows increased synaptic activity in response to a linguistic technique known as functional shift that involves, for example using a noun to serve as a verb. We believe that similar increases in synaptic activity happen for people living with Alzheimer's disease when they hear, recite, and respond to poetry.

[Study shows Five-Second Touch Can Convey Specific Emotion.](#) As a core of the APP is using touch when reciting the poems we found this study fascinating.

[Study shows oscillations of heart rate and respiration synchronize during poetry recitation.](#) This study shows the aerobic benefits of using the call and response technique in reciting poetry.

[Kate Allan and John Killick on making poems with people with dementia.](#)

[Planet Duplex](#) David Greenberger's amazing project of using oral interviews to create wonderful stories set to music. The Duplex Planet is an ongoing work designed to portray a wide variety of real characters who are old or in decline. In our culture, exposure to people at this point in their lives is generally limited to

seeing family members age and, since that points directly to one's own mortality, it's hard to glean much in the way of an objective example.

[Cathie Borrie](#) Cathie Borrie's website has info on her books including: "The Long Hello - The Other Side of Alzheimer's," which chronicles and cherishes the relationship between a mother and daughter over a seven-year period as the mother's mind transforms and her dementia increases. The mother's voice weaves throughout the memoir with insight, humor and an astonishing poetic sensibility, challenging the negative stereotypes pervasive in the current and often limiting geography of dementia.

[Alzheimer's Foundation of America](#)

[Alzheimer's Poetry Project- Arizona on NBC](#)

[Alzheimer's Poetry Project on WBHN](#)

[Karen Stobbe- In the Moment -an amazing improv theater based program](#)

[Glazner's article on using poetry with dementia for the Alzheimer's Foundation of America](#)

[Glazner's Poetry Blog](#)



Glazner reading in Oklahoma City

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